

COURT REJECTS OBESE FLYERS DECISION, PG 7

Sports pg 14

York Report:
Stampeders
will win
the Cup —
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Movies pg 16



Fans can
sink their
fangs
into flick

Lyme survivor calls for review

JEFF CUMMINGS
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It only appeared to be a cold at first during the Christmas holidays in 2004, but Ed Sperling's symptoms later caused him to miss an entire year of school and doctors in Alberta were unable to properly treat him, say his parents.



The 19-year-old, who is now studying at the University of Alberta, was diagnosed with Lyme Disease, a rare bacterial infection that causes nervous system disorders if it's not properly treated.

His parents believe he contracted the disease when he was 15 in Califor-

nia, where the family lived before moving back to Edmonton.

Sperling, however, was not diagnosed by doctors in Alberta because the criteria to diagnose patients with the disease are "unrealistically stringent" since the illness is not common here, said Sperling's father, Felix.

Since Alberta doctors did not treat Sterling in time with antibiotics, he fell into a catatonic state, his parents said. They frantically sent a sample of his blood for a diagnosis to doctors in California.

"I would freeze, and I would have a total lack of appetite," said Sperling who admitted to being told by people that he was faking his illness.

"I was totally disabled, so I couldn't walk to school."

Alberta Liberal Leader Kevin Taft, who represents the Sperlings in Edmonton-Riverview, called on the Tory government yesterday to work with the Canadian Lyme Disease Foundation to begin a formal public review of Lyme disease in Alberta.

"I'm sure there are a lot of people out there who

are not filling those criteria (for a diagnosis) and they are getting very, very ill," Felix said.

Taft introduced the family in session yesterday and introduced a private member's statement about the disease.

Watch Kevin Taft's press conference at metronews.ca/local

Local page 2

No relief for swarmed man's family

World page 11

Shopkeeper draws ire for Obama pool

IntelleVision pg 24

Who can save the Heroes?

Music pg 22



Tuning into Bond songs

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BEA LEEMERS / METRO EDMONTON

Constable Steve Sharpe mounts one of the All Valuables Removed window stickers that are a key part of the anti-car-theft campaign.

'Tis the season for theft from cars, cops warn

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
victoria.handysides



They are teaming up with the AMA to make drivers aware of a preventable crime.

"The police can't be everywhere to find people doing this," said Supt. Joe Marshall. "There are so many people doing it, and we're making arrests, but

the numbers remain high."

Over 10,000 Edmonton smash-and-grab thefts were reported in 2007. So far this year, the count is 8,000.

AMA spokesman Don Szarko said that over \$60 million is collected each year in stolen property in

surance claims in Alberta.

Officers suggest, in addition to ensuring doors are locked, shopping bags shouldn't be left inside vehicles on Christmas shopping runs. Police say that even when the car is locked inside a garage, nothing in a vehicle is safe.

Driver resigns after child left asleep on bus

SCHOOL A forgotten three-year-old child on a school bus could be the third strike for a local bus company, Edmonton Catholic School Board officials said.

Leigh Lamb was on her way to a multicultural preschool program at Mother Theresa Elementary School (9008 – 105 A Avenue) Wednesday morning, and fell asleep along the way.

When the driver counted heads of the six children getting off the bus, the girl was overlooked, and marked absent. Three hours later, the driver noticed the child was sleeping on the bus.

After realizing her mistake, the bus driver quietly resigned yesterday.

This is the third incident in under a year that has risen from employees at R.L. Smith Transportation, one of the Catholic school board's five carriers.

"We have some very serious concerns with R.L. Smith, and the way they have handled this incident and others," said ECS spokeswoman Lori Nagy.

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A Global Fair Trade Marketplace dubbed Justice at Christmas will be taking place today and tomorrow at the Alberta Avenue Community Hall (9210 – 118 Ave.). All goods are handmade, and benefit non-profit organizations. This year's market features international cuisine and music. **METRO EDMONTON**

Local



Ride in style

United Cycle hosts the only consumer bicycle trade show in Northern Alberta, tomorrow from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at its Old Strathcona location (10323 – 78 Ave.). The show will give bikers a chance to see what's new in gear before it hits the market.

METRO EDMONTON

2 years after death in swarming, no closure

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
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On the second anniversary of her son's death, Marlene McGillis curled up on his frozen grave and lay with her son all afternoon.

"There she was, laying there with a blanket on his grave in -13 C," Dylan McGillis' father, Grant McGillis, said yesterday, describing the scene he found upon pulling up to the cemetery Wednesday afternoon.



Dylan, a 20-year-old father-to-be was swarmed in an unprovoked attack by a group of men on Whyte Avenue on Nov. 19, 2006, and stabbed in the chest. He was taken to the University of Alberta Hospital,



Supplied surveillance photo.

and though he underwent three emergency surgeries, died the same day.

"I have horrible memories of watching him in the hospital, all the blood that was there in that room, the emergency surgeries, and wires and tubes. It's tough to relive it, but that's what our lives are now," Grant said.

The Lloydminster man became a father eight months after he was murdered.

His baby daughter, Daelyn, is being raised by his grieving girlfriend, Natasha Brouwer, who was slashed on her arms

in the attack.

"His daughter will never, ever, have the things that most little girls would take for granted, and that's having their dad in their life," Grant said.

Dylan's family and friends still hold onto hope that his killer will be found, and are holding a candlelight vigil in his memory this Saturday night on the corner of 106 Street and Whyte Avenue, the very spot Dylan was fatally wounded.

Police recently released photos of persons of interest in the case, which Dylan's family members will be passing out, in hopes that someone can help identify them.

"All we have left is hope. I can't give up, and I won't give up," Grant said. "Dylan deserves that, not only from me, but from the EPS and people that were out on Whyte Avenue that night and may have been part of the beating."



Andre Winter of Winter Art Glass Studio works to remove a panel of stained glass from the chapel at Newman Theological College, along Mark Messier Trail yesterday.

\$1M windows make big move

Panes of million-dollar glass were moved, very carefully, from a west-end seminary

yesterday to their new Edmonton home.

Beautiful stained-glass windows, 28 to be exact, were moved from St. Joseph's Seminary to the Catholic Pastoral Centre at 84 Street and 101 Avenue,

where they will be reassembled.

The windows are considered a treasure by the Catholic Archdiocese, which paid \$24,400 for the French-made treasures in 1957.

It's estimated that, today, the windows are worth over \$1 million.

In order to build the north

Edmonton leg of Anthony Henday Drive, the province bought the land on which Newman Theological College and St. Joseph Seminary are situated, necessitating the move.

METRO EDMONTON

Watch the deft touch required for removing the glass at metronews.ca/local

metronews.ca

WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Movies showtimes, trailers reviews and purchase tickets at metronews.ca/movies

Watch a Canadian-led mission rout the Taliban at metronews.ca/canada

Watch Jim Flaherty tamp down hope of an economic stimulus package at metronews.ca/canada



Government names new 15-member health board

JEFF CUMMINGS
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Health Minister Ron Liepert has handpicked a 15-member board that is expected to reshape health care across the province, but NDP Leader Brian Mason says all the appointees are Tory friends in the private sector.

"This is a board that is full of corporate executives and directors," said Mason.

And in some cases there appears to be real problems and real conflicts of interest here."

Mason said one of the new members, Brian Tony Mason Franceschi-

ni, heads up Stantec Inc., which has multiple con-

tracts with the health-care system, including the new Grande Prairie Regional Health Facility.

Mason said this appointment is "fraught with major conflicts of interest."

"There is no conflict of interest," said Liepert in the legislature yesterday.

"(He) is one of the pre-eminent leaders in this city."

The new board, which will report directly to the

health minister, includes 13 members from Alberta, one from Ontario, and one member from the United States.

Liepert changed the status of the seven current board members from interim to permanent, and named eight new members.

Former MacLeod MP Ken Hughes will continue to chair the board that is made up of lawyers, a banker, educators, a physi-

cian, an accountant and a former Tory Alberta MLA.

The move comes after the province replaced its nine regional health boards with one superboard Liepert said would allow health care to be more accessible across the province.

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Police led on car chase

CHARGES A man took police on a wild chase after officers spotted him making what they believe was a drug deal north of downtown Wednesday.

Around 8:45 p.m., officers spotted a man who they believed was selling drugs in the area of 103rd Street and 123rd Avenue.

After throwing on the sirens, the man sped around the police vehicle, over three lawns, until offi-

cers rammed the Acura to stop it.

Michael Yu, 22, is charged with drug trafficking offences, criminal flight from police, dangerous driving, and operation of a motor vehicle while disqualified.

He was additionally charged with four breaches of probation and arrested on six outstanding warrants.

METRO EDMONTON

Underage teen charged after crash

CRIME A group of teens took off on foot from police after officers attempted to pull the underage group over in a suspicious vehicle.

Officers spotted a car near West Edmonton Mall just after midnight yesterday with four suspicious looking passengers.

They followed it, and the vehicle struck a concrete barrier near 85th Avenue and 188th Street. All four teens inside got out and

ran.

After chasing the kids on foot, officers captured the driver. A police dog was used to flush out the other three, who were hiding in bushes in a nearby yard.

All youths in the stolen car were between the ages of 13 and 15.

A 14-year-old was charged with possession of stolen property under \$5,000 and several Traffic Safety Act infractions.

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Medals returned to rightful home

Soldier's grandson claims pieces found in frame shop

JEFF CUMMINGS
jeff.cummings@metronews.ca

Six medals belonging to a soldier who fought in the Second World War that were left unclaimed for 13 years in an Edmonton framing shop are now in the rightful hands of that soldier's grandson in Ardrossan.

Merlin Friel whose grandfather served in the Second World War became emotional for a brief moment when he was handed his grandfather's medals for the first time by soldiers at the Edmonton Garrison yesterday during a brief news conference.

"I am very happy, I'm happy to get them back," said Friel, whose grandfather, Jim Friel, served in Italy, Germany and France during one of the dead-

liest wars Canada has been a part of.

After leaving the military, Friel's grandfather worked for Strathcona County for 25 years. He died in 1972.

"I'm going to put (the medals) in my office where I can look at them every day," said Friel.

The Canadian Forces made a public call earlier this month to ask the public to help find the rightful owners of the military

medals.

After hearing back from a number of people who claimed the medals, the Canadian Military found that Friel's family were the rightful owners.

Watch the medals get returned to their rightful home at metronews.ca/local



Merlin Friel ponders his grandfather Jim Friel's medals after they were presented to him at Edmonton Garrison yesterday. The medals had been left unclaimed at a framing shop.

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Deposed media baron Conrad Black is hoping George W. Bush will grant him clemency during the U.S. president's final weeks in office. The Department of Justice in Washington has confirmed that Montreal-born Black requested that his 6½-year sentence be commuted. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canada

"This is who I am and yeah, I've got some scars."

Liberal leadership candidate Bob Rae talking about his time in office as the NDP premier of Ontario.



Liberal poll

An Angus Reid poll shows Michael Ignatieff enjoys a slight lead over Rae as the candidate that would bring the Liberal party the most votes in a federal election.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tories project deficit

The Canadian government will run a budget deficit for the first time in over a decade as the economy slides into a mild recession, the new parliamentary budget officer predicted yesterday.

The gloomy outlook provided by Kevin Page, the budget officer, provided ammunition for the Liberals, who accused Prime Minister Stephen Harper of irresponsible spending and poor economic stewardship.

"The most interesting point was the statement in black and white that this deficit is not because of a global economic situation, but its entirely because of



"It's a made-in-Canada Stephen Harper deficit"

John McCallum

actions taken by the Harper government," said Liberal legislator John McCallum.

"It's a made-in-Canada Stephen Harper deficit," he said.

Based on the average forecast of private-sector economists, the report forecasts a deficit of \$3.9 billion in the 2009-10 fiscal year starting April 1, a deficit of \$1.4 billion in 2010-11, followed by small surpluses in the next two

years.

Page is predicting deficits of between \$12 billion and \$14 billion in each of the next four years. The newly re-elected Conservatives insisted throughout this year's campaign that they would continue to balance the books.

Ottawa is seen running a surplus of \$4 billion in the current fiscal year, down sharply from the \$9.6 billion recorded in 2007-08.

REUTERS

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Washington Auto bailout



Industry Minister Tony Clement, right, speaks to the media about the auto industry with Ontario Economic Development Minister Michael Bryant in front of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, yesterday. Clement spent the day meeting with officials in Washington about government bailouts for automakers.

Crash victim back in Edmonton

MARIA COOTAUCO
for Metro Canada

FUNDING The only surviving passenger of a Pacific Coastal Airlines floatplane crash that killed seven was released from Vancouver General Hospital and is now recovering closer to home at the University of Alberta hospital in Edmonton.

ton.

On Sunday, Tom Wilson, a 36-year-old Fort Saskatchewan resident crawled from the burning wreckage of the Grumman Goose plane that crashed on South Thormanby Island.

It went down about 20 minutes after leaving Vancouver International Airport on its way to Toba In-

let near Sechelt.

Despite his burns, Wilson hiked for more than two hours to a beach where he was eventually rescued.

Transportation Safety Board investigators said yesterday they are trying to establish if the plane was flying below the required minimum altitude when it went down.

News in brief

KILLING Canada will keep pressing Saudi Arabia not to execute Canadian Mohamed Kohail, 23, who has been sentenced to death by beheading for a killing, the foreign ministry said yesterday. Kohail was convicted in March of killing a teen in a schoolyard brawl.

TWINS DEATH Halifax officials have said they will investigate what happened to conjoined baby girls who died while aboard a flight travelling to New York, where they were seeking medical treatment. Officials are awaiting an autopsy.

Federation of Municipalities pressure PM on infrastructure

FUNDING Prime Minister Stephen Harper is keen to see "short-term" results as the federal government prepares to ramp up infrastructure spending across the country.

Officials with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities say that's the message Harper delivered during an hour-long meeting yesterday afternoon.

As economic woes wors-



en, the federal Conservatives have made infrastructure spending a priority and say they want to move quickly to get projects going across the country.

The officials made the case that a \$3-billion investment by Ottawa would put almost 100,000 people to work at a critical time when the downturn is threatening

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Harper to attend economic co-operation summit

Prime Minister Stephen Harper heads off to Peru this weekend for the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation summit, where the international financial crisis will dominate discussions. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

New speech laws pitched by separatist

QUEBEC Separatist Parti Québécois leader Pauline Marois wants to introduce a newer, stronger version of Quebec's controversial language law, Bill 101.

Yesterday, in an attempt to rally the party's sovereignist base — some of whom are frustrated the leader has put sovereignty on the backburner — Marois proposed that Quebec adopt a

new Bill 101, put in place by her party in 1977. The new law would require smaller businesses with up to 50 employees be able to operate in French. Currently only those with more than 50 employees are subject to the law.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Protesting the Games

VANCOUVER
2010 Games

MARIA COOTAUO
For Metro Canada

On the last day of an international media briefing on the 2010 Olympics, Dave Diewert was hoping some journalists would be able to see beyond the city's scenic skyline and construction sites.

"The voice needs to get out," said Diewert, a member of the group Streams of Justice.

"Two hundred journalists from around the world arrived for a few days of sightseeing and looking at the Olympic venues ... it's to them we wanted to raise awareness."

A roughly 12-person protest yesterday at Canada Place and later on Main Street sought to rally against the negative im-



Dave Diewert, with Streams of Justice, was one of roughly 12 people protesting the 2010 Games outside the Pan Pacific Hotel in Vancouver yesterday.

pact the Games has on the poor and vulnerable of B.C.

"It's a train wreck," Diewert said.

According to an Olympic resistance group, home-

lessness has increased dramatically since Vancouver won the bid and 1,200 low-income housing units in the Downtown Eastside have been lost since 2003.

Supreme Court rejects obese airline seat ruling

COURT Obese people have the right to two seats for the price of one on flights within Canada, the Supreme Court ruled yesterday.

The high court declined to hear an appeal by Canadian airlines of a decision by the Canadian Transportation Agency that people who are "functionally disabled by obesity" deserve to have

two seats for one fare. The airlines had lost an appeal at the Federal Court of Appeal in May and had sought to launch a fresh appeal at the Supreme Court.

The court's decision not to hear a new appeal means the one-person-one-fare policy will stand for airlines flying within Canada. **REUTERS**

Appeal

- The appeal had been launched by Air Canada, Air Canada Jazz and WestJet.

The court's decision not to hear a new appeal means the one-person-one-fare policy will stand for airlines flying within Canada. **REUTERS**

Charities asking for assistance

SPENDING Canada's charities, facing falling donations and rising demand from the poor due to the economic crisis, are asking cash-strapped Ottawa to look elsewhere for ways to balance the government budget.

The nation's charity lobby group, Imagine Canada, said yesterday it has draft

ed a letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper ahead of next week's economic statement asking the government not to slash charitable funding.

Canada's food banks recently reporting a 25 percent slump in donations they normally receive from major corporations.

REUTERS



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Comment & Views

Comment

The have-not's lament

OmniVision

Rick McGinnis

rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

Ontarians have had enough to distract them over the last few months, to be sure — there have been two election campaigns, an economic meltdown and two seasons of *So You Think You Can Dance*, after all. You can't escape history, though, and with the early snowfall comes the reminder that we're in for a long winter, and our first since Michael Jackson's *Thriller* was released that we're going to be a welfare province.

The rest of the country was looking up the word "Schadenfreude" earlier this year, when it was announced that the province they loved to hate had slipped into the economic classification known as a

"have-not" member of Confederation, and that Upper Canada would be due for transfer payments as part of some inscrutable federal formula. The news kept Rick Mercer going on overdrive for weeks.

This week, former premier Mike Harris wrote an editorial in the National Post mourning that "Ontario isn't just on the edge of a fiscal and economic crisis — we've toppled over a cliff, and no one really knows how far down we might fall."

On the same day, the province's Tory opposition released MPP Ted Chudleigh's poem about the province's fiscal situation in an e-mail.

"Ontario, the land of my birth," Chudleigh writes, "For decades, the centre of fortune and mirth/Where hard work and sacrifice defined our self-worth/Where none could imagine dependence and dearth."

Doggerel, to be sure, and hardly likely to elicit sympathy from the rest of the country, but it suggests a creative solution to the cri-

There are ... so many more ways we could, in Barack Obama's phrase, "spread the wealth" without inspiring resentment from Peggy's Cove to Granby Bay.

sis that hasn't been explored.

While the province counts down till the start of the next fiscal year and the \$347 million due from Ottawa, we're also bracing ourselves for the inevitable jeers and scorn from the rest of the country.

It doesn't have to be this way; there are, after all, so many more ways we could, in Barack Obama's phrase, "spread the wealth" without inspiring resentment from Peggy's Cove to Granby Bay.

Surely the Atlantic provinces could spare us a few decent poets to relieve us from versifying

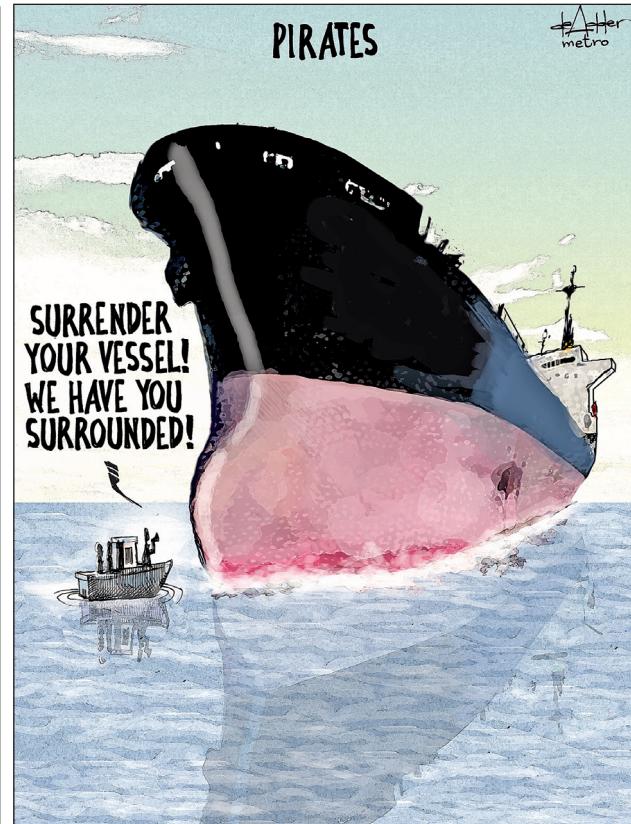
such as Chudleigh's, and can't creative surpluses in the rest of the country be alleviated at little more than the cost of a flight to Toronto on Westjet or Porter?

Montreal has no shortage of dance companies, and Winnipeg can certainly spare a few film collectives. Calgary has its share of surly salespeople — can't they find positions in Gap stores all around the Golden Horseshoe?

As for British Columbia, they've been doing their bit for years, sending Ontario discrete shipments of BC Big Bud and Merville Blueberry along with their spare bassists and film set drivers.

All I'm saying is that being a have-not province doesn't mean Ontario has to be resented by the rest of the country; considering what we'd get in exchange, I think we'd deserve your pity.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.



Letters

B. Bailey, BURLINGTON, ONT.

As a daily commuter, I'm quite familiar with Metro and Rick McGinnis' columns. I just want to pass on positive vibes by saying I love his writing style and appreciate the humour.

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Views

Thank God, it's family dinner night



Bonnie Stern

Family meals are making a big comeback. Everyone is looking for comfort, camaraderie and a trusting environment. Where have we gotten with everyone fend-ing for themselves, letting big companies provide home meal replacements, dining out all the time and buying exotic, expensive ingredients?

With our current economy family meals make a lot of sense. When you entertain, invite guests to be part of a family meal rather than a Saturday night extravaganza. Guests feel honoured to be invited

into your family and they love to help with cooking — even with the dishes! You can serve reasonably priced ingredients, you don't have to have fancy flowers or table settings and you don't have to feel guilty about it.

In the last few years, people have become more and more suspect of the safety of our food, our environment and of the world in general. Large companies preparing countless amounts of food are bound to have problems at one time or another. When you cook for yourself you have more control, know the quality of your ingredients and don't have to worry about the food keeping forever. You can buy locally produced foods and help protect the environ-

ment as well as your family. When you buy prepared foods it is pretty hard to pass recipes down to your children. Your children will probably repeat your model. And if the company you use goes out of business, there won't be any more traditional family recipes.

A family dinner is the time to celebrate your family's accomplishments and discuss any problems. I like Friday night for many reasons, but one is that it's a great time to discuss the week gone by while it's still fresh in everyone's mind. Then you can say goodbye to it and welcome the weekend. Family dinners create family values and in times of uncertainty, it helps to have people around you that you can trust.

People are looking for

emotional connections so desperately that even strangers are getting together to cook and eat meals together. Pot-luck dinners are the entertaining style of the year and even television shows, like the hit *Gossip Girl*, are promoting family dinners.

So invite your friends to join your family or create a family for yourself from the different "families" you belong to (alumni groups, book clubs, etc.). When people realize how good it feels to gather around the table, they will turn around and do the same things with other people. Try it. It's catching on.

Bonnie Stern is a teacher, columnist, author and one of Canada's top food experts. Her latest book is *Friday Night Dinners* (Random House Canada).

It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: edmontonletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.



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10 world

Shanghai tower named year's best skyscraper
The Shanghai World Financial Center, the world's second-tallest building that some say resembles an elegant bottle opener, was named yesterday by architects as the best skyscraper completed this year. **REUTERS**

World



Jewel sets record

A large Kashmir sapphire ring set a world record at auction yesterday, fetching nearly \$3.5 million US, but half of the jewels on offer failed to sell in a market shaken by the financial crisis, Christie's said. **REUTERS**

Auto-bailout vote postponed

Wall Street was hostage to the rapidly changing news of a possible rescue for the U.S. auto industry, with the stock market rising on news of a tentative bipartisan deal in Congress for a \$25-billion US package for Detroit and then falling to new lows when the deal ran into trouble.

Automakers held out hope. After the end of the trading day, the White House announced it could back a compromise plan pushed by Michigan senators to help by using \$25 billion in Energy Depart-

Low crude prices a mixed blessing

In what would normally be a good sign for consumers, but now signals weaker global

growth, U.S. crude futures plunged 9.5 per cent, falling as low as \$48.50 a barrel.

ment loans for greener cars, and urged Congress to act quickly.

U.S. automakers said they will meet Democratic demands to offer a plan to return to profitability, and lawmakers said it could be considered the week of Dec. 8.

In more bad news for the

battered U.S. economy, the number of U.S. workers on jobless rolls surged to the highest in a quarter century, prompting Congress to extend benefits for the long-term unemployed.

"I think this is going to be not only a deep recession ... but also a long recession," said Conrad De-

Quadros, senior economist at RDQ Economics in New York.

All three major U.S. stock indexes made broad swings, ending sharply lower due to deepening economic fears and investors' flight from risk.

The Standard & Poor's 500 slid 6.71 per cent to close at 752.44, its lowest since 1997. The Dow Jones industrial average slid down 5.6 per cent to close at 7,552.29, while the Nasdaq Composite Index fell five per cent to end at 1,316.12. **REUTERS**

Rome Fighting domestic violence



A group of women wearing wedding dresses splattered with red dye pose yesterday while publicizing a demonstration to be held this weekend in Rome against domestic violence. **REUTERS**

Schwarzenegger, others pledge to battle world's climate change

ENVIRONMENT Impatient with the pace of national governments in fighting global climate change, 13 U.S. state governors joined counterparts from six other countries to pledge cooperation to curtail Earth-warming greenhouse gas emissions.

The declaration, issued by California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, capped a two-day climate change summit he hosted in Beverly Hills attended by more than 800 environmental

"We will make the tough decisions to restore our planet's health."

Arnold Schwarzenegger

officials and politicians.

"By joining forces with our partners around the world, we will make the tough decisions to restore our planet's health," Schwarzenegger said in addressing the conference.

News in brief

THAILAND The leader of the long-running anti-government People's Alliance for Democracy in Thailand called for a major rally Sunday to oust the "murderous" administration after one of its supporters was killed in a grenade attack yesterday.

CANCER A national screening program in Finland has detected about 40 per cent of colon cancers early, showing that such tests can make a difference, Finnish researchers reported yesterday. Researchers studied 106,000 people aged between 60 and

64 to examine the effectiveness of a program started in 2004.

GUANTANAMO Five of six Algerians held nearly seven years at the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba must be released, a federal judge ruled yesterday.

VIOLENCE Pakistani forces killed 40 Islamist fighters yesterday as artillery and jet fighters backed ground troops fighting in the Bajaur tribal region, and an air strike hit militants in Swat valley, officials said. **REUTERS**

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CIA-backed program lacked 'adequate safeguards'

The CIA obstructed inquiries into its role in the shooting down of an aircraft carrying a family of U.S. missionaries in Peru in 2001, the agency's inspector general has concluded. Veronica Bowers, and her infant daughter Charity, were killed in the crash. **REUTERS**

FEMA warns of giant U.S. earthquake

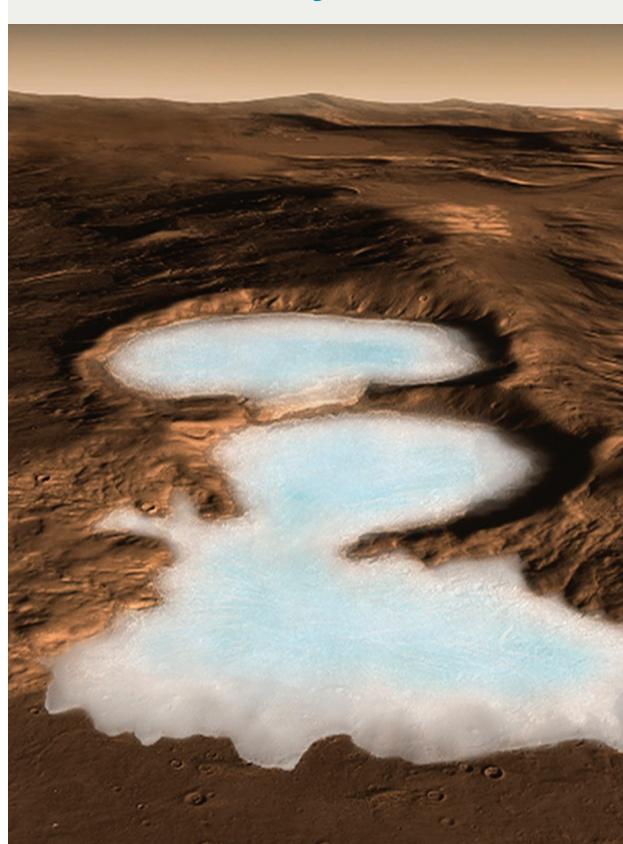
REPORT People in a vast seismic zone in the southern and midwestern U.S. would face catastrophic damage if a major earthquake struck, a government report said yesterday.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency said if earthquakes strike in the New Madrid Seismic Zone, they would cause "the highest economic losses due to a natural disaster in the United States."

FEMA predicted a large earthquake would cause "widespread and catastrophic physical damage" across Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee — home to some 44 million people.

The zone is subject to frequent mild earthquakes.

Experts have long tried to predict the likelihood of a major quake like those that struck the zone in 1811 and 1812. They shifted the course of the Mississippi River and rang church bells on the East Coast but caused few deaths amid a sparse population. **REUTERS**

Mars Ice ice baby

NASA/HANDOUT/REUTERS

An artist's conception shows what NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter has revealed: Vast Martian glaciers of ice under protective blankets of rocky debris at much lower latitudes than any ice previously identified on the Red Planet. Scientists analyzed data from the spacecraft's ground-penetrating radar and report in the Nov. 21 issue of the journal Science that buried glaciers extend for dozens of miles from edges of mountains or cliffs.

REUTERS

Assassination bet
Store-owner's Obama pool criticized

Passions flared in a Maine town yesterday over a sign in a store asking customers to place bets on an assassination of President-elect Barack Obama.

The Town Council in Standish condemned the sign yesterday in a 6-0 vote and declared it reprehensible at a meeting where some residents defended the store owner, saying he had a right to free speech even if in bad taste, local authorities said.

"The town of Standish condemns in the strongest terms any such alleged activity calling for violence against any individual, no

"The town of Standish condemns ... calling for violence against any individual."

Town resolution

matter their position, race or ethnicity," said the resolution posted on the town's website.

The sign in the Oak Hill General Store asked customers to place a \$1 bet on the date of Obama's assassination, and said "Let's hope someone wins," the Port-

land Press Herald reported. It was called the "Osama Obama Shotgun Pool."

The store in the town of 9,285 people in southwest Maine has remained closed since reports of the sign appeared in the media on Sunday.

About 80 people attended the meeting, including some who defended the store owner, said town clerk Mary Chapman. **REUTERS**



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Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

PM vows to fight crisis by any means

Canada will take whatever fiscal and monetary measures are needed to combat the effects of the global financial crisis, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said yesterday, predicting more economic gloom to come.

Harper also told Parliament that the Conservative government would not balance the budget by raising taxes or cutting essential services in a time of upheaval.

He also promised short-term stimulus for the economy amid a U.S. recession.

"We have been affected and we will be further affected, particularly given that our closest neighbour and largest trading partner

"We have been affected and will be further affected."

Stephen Harper

is the epicenter of the financial earthquake," he said.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Ottawa may consider providing economic stimulus through additional investments in infrastructure projects.

That would be on top of \$16 billion in spending already pledged in the last budget and which Flaherty hopes to disburse more quickly than initially planned.

REUTERS

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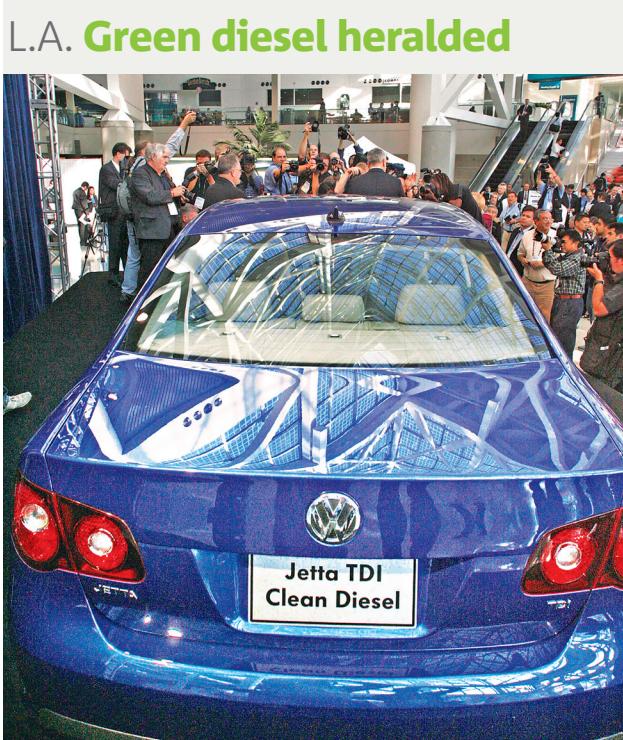
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L.A. Green diesel heralded
Photographers crowd around a Volkswagen 2009 Jetta TDI on stage after it was named Green Car Journal's 2009 Green Car of the Year at the L.A. Auto Show in California yesterday. This is the first time that a clean diesel model has been given the award.

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Watchdog sides with BCE on Internet traffic-shaping

WEB Canada's telecoms watchdog has sided with BCE Inc. and its subsidiary Bell Canada in letting the company slow down certain file-sharing traffic on wholesale networks it leases to smaller service providers.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission also said yesterday that BCE

will now have to notify wholesale customers at least 30 days in advance of making performance-affecting changes.

The Canadian Association of Internet Providers, which filed the complaint, say it's not just file sharing to blame: Internet radio and YouTube have also been affected by traffic shaping.

REUTERS

Business in brief

ASIA The Canadian government reiterated a call yesterday ahead of this weekend's Asia-Pacific summit for the revaluation of exchange rates of key Asian countries, including China.

OIL Alberta's concession to the oil industry to lower royalties failed yesterday to prevent a 15

per cent drop in energy stocks, which hit their lowest levels in more than four years on tumbling oil and gas prices.

TRADE Canadian wholesale trade unexpectedly rose in September, increasing 1.5 per cent thanks to a rebound in auto sales, Statistics Canada said yesterday.

REUTERS

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New York Yankees right-hander Mike Mussina, 39, as expected, retired yesterday after 18 seasons in the major leagues. The first-round pick of the Orioles in 1990 completed his career with a 270-153 record and a 3.68 ERA to go along with seven Gold Gloves. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

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Red Wings topple Oilers

Detroit hangs on after nearly blowing an early 3-0 lead

NHL RESULTS

Detroit 4 | Edmonton 3

ROBIN BROWNLEE
for Metro Edmonton

THE SKINNY: Detroit built a 3-0 lead in the first 10 minutes on goals by Jiri Hudler, Pavel Datsyuk and Tomas Kopecky and then rode Chris Osgood's 31 saves for an encore to Monday's 4-0 victory over the Oilers.

THE QUOTE: "We gave them a chance to come back in the game," Detroit captain Nicklas Lidstrom said of two late goals by the Oilers. "But we started to bear down in the last three or four minutes there."

THE BIG PLAY: The Oilers

Detroit Red Wings forward Valtteri Filppula, right, elbows Edmonton Oilers' Andrew Cogliano during the second period of last night's game in Edmonton. The Red Wings won 4-3.

had narrowed it to 3-1 in the second when Hudler took Derek Meech's shot off the end boards on a power play and tucked it past netminder Mathieu Garon at 18:28 for his second of the game to

make it 4-1.

BURNED: The Oilers gave Detroit's top-ranked power play three chances in the first period and Datsyuk and Kopecky, who'd gone 25 games

without a goal, scored with the man advantage. Detroit finished 3-for-5.

SHORT NIGHT: Dwayne Roloson made his fourth straight start but was given the hook in favour of Garon at 10:11 of the first period after allowing three goals on 10 shots.

ROAD WARRIOR: The Red Wings have a road record most teams don't boast at home. Detroit is 9-1-1 away from Joe Louis Arena. That's more wins on the road than 27 other teams have at home.

TRADING PLACES: Jesse Boulerice was put on waivers yesterday and defenceman Ladislav Smid was activated from injured reserve and put in the lineup — on left wing. Smid hadn't played forward since he was eight years old.

THE NEXT GAME: The Oilers host the Los Angeles Kings on Wednesday.

Eskimos WR Peterson named CFL's best Canadian player

CFL Edmonton Eskimos wide receiver Kamau Peterson was honoured as the CFL's Most Outstanding Canadian last night.

Peterson, an eight-year CFL veteran, had 101 receptions for 1,317 yards and four touchdowns in 18 starts this season. He received 25 of 46 first place ballots to edge out Ben Cahoon.

"It has been an honor to



share the stage with such unbelievable talent here at the player awards," Peterson said. "Any time that I can represent an organization as steeped in excellence as the Edmonton Eskimos, it is humbling to say the least. My hat goes off to Ben Cahoon on his great season, as I am a big fan."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports in brief

MLB The Philadelphia Phillies announced yesterday that All-Star second baseman Chase Utley will undergo hip surgery.

MLB Major League Baseball owners approved a shift of control of the New York Yankees from George Steinbrenner to his son Hal yesterday.

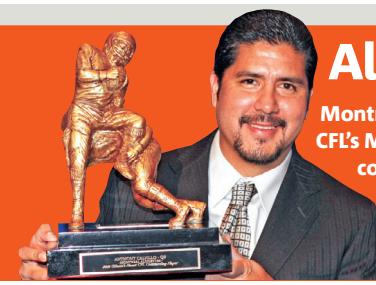
NFL The Cincinnati Bengals deactivated wide receiver Chad Johnson for their Thursday night game against the division rival Steelers for violation of a team rule.

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Als' Calvillo stands out

Montreal Alouettes quarterback Anthony Calvillo, left, took home the CFL's Most Outstanding Player award last night, beating out his Grey Cup counterpart, Calgary's Henry Burris. Burris and Calvillo face off in Sunday's Grey Cup. B.C.'s Cameron Wake was named Outstanding Defensive Player, and Toronto's Dominique Dorsey captured the Outstanding Special Teams Player award.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

All signs point to a Grey Cup Stampede

York Report

Marty York



marty.york@metronews.ca

Shades of Grey

For Grey Cup notes and nuggets, check out Marty York's latest CFL Report, exclusively at metronews.ca. And be sure to pick up Monday's Metro or log on to metronews.ca to read Marty's Grey Cup game column.

Stamps a lick. Since 1958, when the CFL was officially formed, teams competing in the Grey Cup in their home city are 3-5. Besides, Olympic Stadium isn't really the Als' home. They play their games at Percival Molson Stadium. As for the so-called 13th man in the stands, the Stamps have prepared themselves by pumping taped, near-deafening sounds into the P.A. system during practices at Olympic Stadium this week. And they need only to score quickly to take the crowd out.

The Stamps sure can score. No CFL team is more explosive. Joffrey Reynolds was the CFL's leading rusher; Ken-Yon Rambo, its leading receiver.

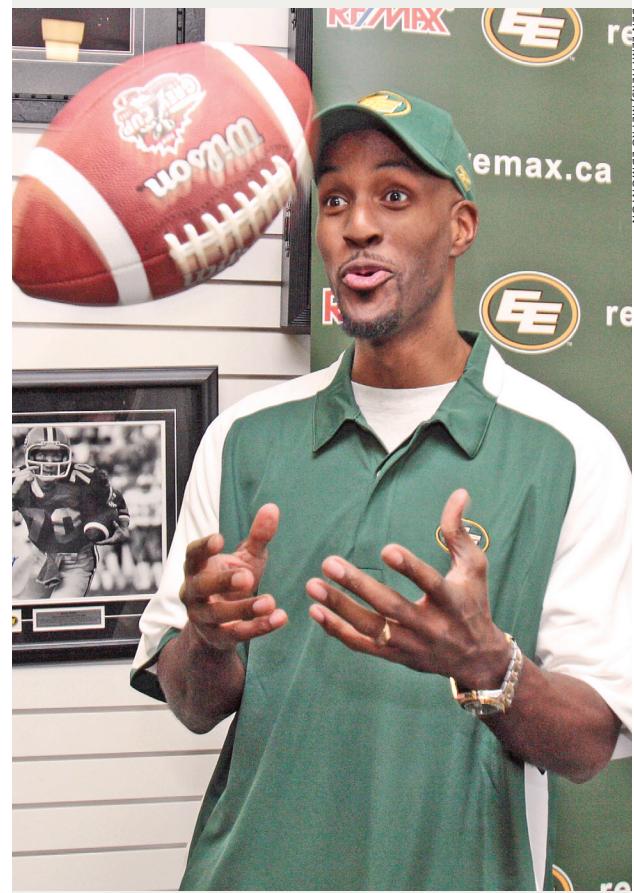
Calvillo's crashes. The Montreal QB doesn't exactly have a great Grey Cup record. This will be his sixth championship game in a nine-year span. He has won only once before.

Coaching. Montreal's Marc Trestman exceeded expectations in his first CFL year, no question, but Calgary's John Hufnagel has oodles of CFL experience as a player and assistant coach and knows exactly what Grey Cup week entails. That's a significant advantage.

Moi. Heck, I picked the Stamps in print to capture the Cup before training camp started this season. I'm not changing my mind now.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

CFL Receiving some good news



Edmonton Eskimos receiver Jason Tucker was all smiles as he spoke to media yesterday talking about his recovery from a fractured and dislocated vertebrae that he sustained during a game earlier in the year. He recently was given the OK to remove his neck brace.

SCOREBOARD

NHL

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS
Detroit 4 EDMONTON 3
Montreal 3 Ottawa 2 (SO)
New Jersey 3 Florida 1
Pittsburgh 3 Atlanta 2
Vancouver 3 Minnesota 2
Chicago 6 Dallas 3
Calgary 1 Colorado 0
Washington at Los Angeles

NBA

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS
Boston 98 Detroit 80
L.A. Lakers at Phoenix

VANIER CUP

TOMORROW'S GAME
AT HAMILTON, ONT.

W

Western Ontario vs. Laval

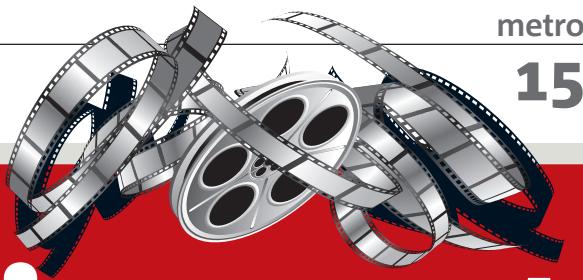
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Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: TINA COSTANZA, TINA.COSTANZA@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Fatal attraction

Pg 16



Twilight is already guaranteed an audience in theatres with an established fan base mainly populated by teenage girls. Those that adore the literary vampire love story will not be disappointed. Everyone else will just wonder what the fuss is about.

movies

Pg 18



Australia contains all the key ingredients for an epic film.

music

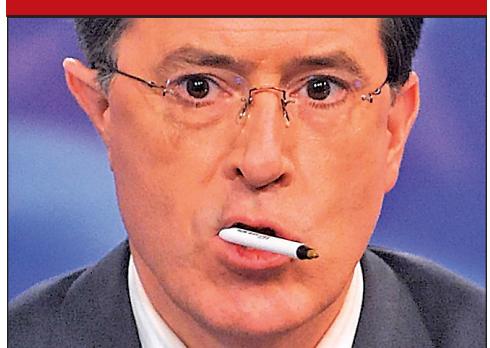
Pg 22



Looking at the hits, misses in Bond's musical legacy.

television

Pg 24



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Movies

●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Twilight a predictable love story

Twilight

Director: Catherine Hardwicke
Starring: Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson
Classification: PG
Rating: ●●

PHIL BROWN
 for Metro Canada 

With an established fan base — mainly populated by teenage girls — the literary phenomenon Twilight is already guaranteed an audience in theatres.

Chances are, that ready-made audience will like the film, but sadly, anyone hoping for a youth fantasy that can crossover to general audiences, a la Harry Potter, will be disappointed.

It's not that Catherine Hardwicke's film is terrible, it's just a movie with a very selective audience appeal.

Kristen Stewart stars as Bella, a young girl who moves to a small town and becomes instantly captivated by a classmate named Edward (Robert Pattinson), who is part of a very peculiar and insular



Robert Pattinson plays a vampire named Edward in the film Twilight.

family known as the Cullens.

As Bella becomes more attracted to Edward, she

discovers that the Cullens are a clan of vampires ... but very safe emo-vampires who only drink ani-

mal blood and spend most of their time silently emoting and looking pretty rather than preying on

helpless victims.

Thus begins an epic tale of forbidden love that has made the hearts of mil-

lions of teenage girls swoon.

The main problem with the film is how completely uninteresting Edward can be. All he seems to be capable of doing is appearing simultaneously attractive and emotionally conflicted.

It also doesn't help that forbidden vampire love has been a cornerstone of the genre since Dracula, making the plot very old and predictable. The only curveball is the fact that this story takes place with contemporary teens (hence the fan base).

Catherine Hardwicke is a talented filmmaker (see Thirteen) and fills the movie with enough exciting visuals to keep things entertaining while coaxing solid performances out of the cast. But it's just not enough to elevate the film above a predictable storyline.

That said, if you're a fan of the franchise you'll probably enjoy the movie. However, if you're one of the many asking, "What's this Twilight thing all about?" then you should skip the film. You're better off not knowing.

The opposite of a Christmas film

PHIL BROWN
 for Metro Canada



FEATURE Seth Gordon burst onto the scene last year with the brilliant documentary The King Of Kong about a pair of grown men fighting over the top score on the original Donkey Kong.

It was inevitable that he would transition into Hollywood after the film, but nobody could have predicted that it would happen so quickly. Before King Of Kong even debuted on DVD, Gordon was hired to direct the comedy Four Christmases — with an all-star cast including Vince Vaughn, Reese Witherspoon, Robert Duvall and Sissy Spacek.

"Vince Vaughn had seen The King Of Kong and I think he responded well to it. He showed it to Reese and they asked to see me," said Gordon. "I barely had time to review the script. I actually read it on the plane to L.A. Then I told them my first instincts about the story and found that we were very similarly minded about the prob-



Seth Gordon with Vince Vaughn and Reese Witherspoon.

lems with the script."

Gordon then worked with the stars to make something that was true to their feelings about families and the holidays.

Opening next Friday, the film is about a couple forced to visit their dysfunctional families for Christmas after avoiding them for years.

"I think it's in some ways the opposite of a traditional Christmas movie because the characters are anti-family anti-marriage, and anti-kids," says Gordon. "I guess my own personal attitudes about marriage and kids is closer to the protagonists than I was

ready to admit. I think it's very informed by our personal experiences, although I won't say what is loosely based on specific things."

Making Four Christmases was obviously quite different from making a low budget documentary and Gordon admits that it was quite a challenge.

"It was such a leap and the movies have almost nothing in common," he said. "It was a great opportunity that I couldn't resist. I'll definitely do some more comedies in the future, but this was a great one to get to cut my teeth on."

A doggone good tale

Bolt

Director: Chris Williams, Byron Howard
Starring: John Travolta, Miley Cyrus
Classification: G
Rating: ●●●●

STEVE GOW
 for Metro Canada 

REVIEW I must admit my initial reaction to John Travolta voicing a cute, cuddly puppy in Bolt wasn't one of anticipation. To me, it seemed a role fit more for Zac Efron than Danny Zuko but then, Bolt is not your average animated hit.

The movie starts off benign enough: A young girl named Penny (voiced by Miley Cyrus) falls in love with a pet store pup named Bolt (John Travolta). But it just as suddenly jumps five years and into the framework of what might be best described as a James Bond movie for Jack Russell Terriers.

Here, we find out Bolt is not only gifted with powers that include a "super-



John Travolta provides the voice for the title doggy Bolt.

bark," but that the showbiz doggy doesn't realize its all part of a TV production. However, after Bolt is accidentally shipped across America, he discovers his true mortality and must journey home to his beloved owner.

Essentially, this tale about the unyielding loyalty of canines is as charming and heart-tugging as any Disney movie out there. Even better, the film excels in skill, depth and maturity equaling that of Wall-E and Ratatouille. Not really surprising since

Pixar's brilliant chief John Lasseter is now running Disney's animation department as well.

While reticent about Travolta, his voice is actually a comforting fit for the disillusioned doggy. But Disney's story artist-turned-voiceover talent Mark Walton is the true scene-stealer in Bolt. Playing a hefty hamster that joins his TV idol on the cross-country trek, Walton's Rhino is sure to have audiences screaming "fully awesome" and giving Bolt a big boost at the box office.

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Reel Time

●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Cue the music, it's an epic film

JIM REYNO
Metro Canada

Movie feature

The very name conjures images of a screen filled with a vast, open prairie lit by a glorious, breathtaking sunset. Or maybe an imposing old guy with a full beard, with the power of God at his fingertips, ready to part the sea with the wave of a staff.

Add an overblown, melodramatic soundtrack, and ladies and gentlemen, you have — drum roll, please — an epic movie. Cue the horn blast! Crash the cymbals!

"They always seem to have those big, symphonic scores," associate professor of film Patricia Gruben says on the phone from Simon Fraser University in Vancouver. But there are other things an epic movie requires. Check out the media release for the latest epic, Baz Luhrmann's *Australia*: "With his new film, Luhrmann is painting on a vast canvas, creating a cinematic experience that

brings together romance, drama, adventure and spectacle," Gruben says.

"It looks like it's got all the ingredients," she says about *Australia*. "There's got to be a love story in there somewhere, in every big-budget movie. But with these epic films, there's always the personal story and then the bigger (story).

"Even if it's a love story like *Dr. Zhivago* or *Gone With the Wind*, it's against this kind of historical backdrop."

Australia, set in World War II, stars Nicole Kidman as an English aristocrat who travels Down Under to save land she inherited. But to do so, she needs the help of a rugged local (Hugh Jackman). Do you think opposites will attract?

The landscape of *Australia* is also very much a part of the picture. Now, Jackman won't be parting any seas like Charlton Heston did as Moses in *The Ten Commandments*, but visu-

Nicole Kidman and Hugh Jackman star in *Australia*.

als are integral to an epic. So is connecting with your audience.

"It's got to have some kind of mythic dimension," Gruben says. "It's got to tell us something about ourselves as a cultural group or as a nation."

Just as *The Ten Commandments* appealed to a religious audience, so goes *Australia* for Australians. Luhrmann, Kidman and Jackman are all Aussies. So if you can connect with people through their eyes, ears and heart, you're talking about a movie of epic proportions.

"I think the spectacle is

part of it," Gruben says about the appeal of epics. "And I think very much a part of it — the ones that work, work on the basis of making us feel included in something, make us feel part of some larger idea."

Epic stories

A few epics you may enjoy

- *Lawrence Of Arabia*
- *Doctor Zhivago*
- *Ghandi*
- *The Ten Commandments*
- *Ben-Hur*
- *Cleopatra*
- *Gone With The Wind*

Kidman, Jackman jumped at chance to work on *Australia*

FEATURE Red carpets were rolled out in Sydney and the dusty outback on Tuesday for the world première of the epic movie *Australia* which aims to showcase the rugged continent, its history and indigenous people to the world.

Director Baz Luhrmann's ambitious and grandly named film, the most expensive made in Australia, Australian co-stars Nicole Kidman and Hugh Jackman have both carved out lucrative Hollywood careers but jumped at the chance to work with Luhrmann.

"The hardest thing was finishing it," Jackman told a news conference, adding that playing a drover or cowboy in the movie was the "greatest role I have ever had."

Australia is pinning high hopes on the romantic adventure which Luhrmann said he had filmed in the style of *Gone With The Wind* and hoped would become part of Australian film history.

Kidman, 41, who worked with Luhrmann on his last

and third movie *Moulin Rouge* in 2001, said making *Australia* was a "once in a lifetime thing" for her.

"Rarely do you get to make a film that you have dreamed of doing since you were little, which will be part of Australian cinema," said Kidman. "This is a celebration for me and hopefully for this country."

Asked about several steamy kissing scenes with Jackman, Kidman joked: "Obviously we were in character, but it was good to go to work."

The two-hour, 40-minute long movie, which is reported to have cost News Corp's 20th Century Fox about \$130 million US, is a World War II drama set in stunning Australian landscape.

The story is about an English aristocrat who travels to Australia and joins forces with a drover and an Aboriginal child to drive a herd of cattle across Australia.

Australia opens in Canada on Wednesday.

REUTERS

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Warner presses Control-Alt-Delete

Warner Bros. is pressing Control-Alt-Delete, picking up a comedy spec script described as Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure meets The Matrix. **REUTERS**

Reel holiday

Whether you're looking for something to do with your loved ones over the holidays, or trying to get away from those cheek-pinchin' distant relatives, Hollywood is hoping you'll take in a flick — or a few.

There seems to be more choices than a can of mixed-nuts hitting the screen this year. Here's Metro's peak at some of the holiday-period's movie highlights.

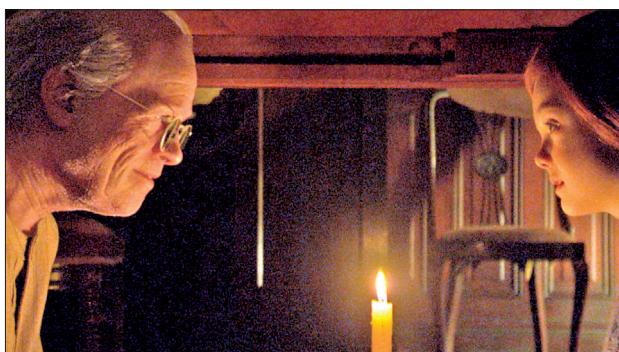
STAGE TO SCREEN: Opie-grad Ron Howard raises the curtain on theatrical adaptation with Frost/Nixon (Dec. 12), a dramatization of the famous 1977 interview between journalist David Frost and a disgraced ex-president Richard Nixon. Howard will have some competition, since Meryl Streep's latest Oscar attempt, Doubt, also opens in some Canadian cities the same day. The Broadway version hit the stage more than 500 times, and Philip Seymour Hoffman and Amy Adams are helping to bring this story of a priest who may have crossed the

Movie feature

line with a student to the big screen.

BIOS: Beyoncé Knowles may have missed her acting Oscar with Dreamgirls, but she is trying again with a turn as Etta James in Cadillac Records (Dec. 5); about the rise and fall of Chicago-based Chess Records. Sean Penn is also a contender for the golden-guy with his portrayal of Harvey Milk in Gus Van Sant's bio about the 1970s assassination of the San Francisco politician in Milk (limited release Nov. 28). It's anyone's guess how Valkyrie (Dec. 26) will fair. Tom Cruise teams with director Bryan Singer to bring this story of the attempted assassination of Adolph Hitler.

KATE AND LEO It was just over a decade ago that Christmas audiences warmed to Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio in the North Atlantic iceberg-crashing epic *Titanic*. Now Rose and Jack are teemed again, this time as a 1950s couple looking



Brad Pitt, left, stars in *The Curious Case of Benjamin Buttons*.

for answers in post-war suburbia in Revolutionary Road (Jan. 2). If you can't wait until the new year, get a Winslet fix in December when she plays a woman defending herself at a war crimes trial following World War II in *The Reader* (Dec. 12).

FANTASY FARE: The 1950s sci-fi classic *The Day the Earth Stood Still* has received a CGI update with Keanu Reeves playing the role of an alien visitor warning of an impending catastrophe if humanity doesn't clean up its act. (Dec. 12). Meanwhile, things are taking place in reverse for Brad Pitt, who stars as a man who, instead of growing older, finds himself growing younger everyday in *The Curious Case of Benjamin Buttons* (Dec. 25).

METRO NEWS SERVICES

A hothouse of passions

The Last Mistress

Director: Catherine Breillat
Stars: Asia Argento
Classification: 18A
Rating: 1/2

ADAM NAYMAN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW The Last Mistress is being marketed as a costume drama, but with noted provocatrix Catherine Breillat at the helm, it's no surprise the clothes end up crumpled on the floor at regular intervals. The film, adapted from a 19th-century novel by Amédée Barbey d'Aurevilly, takes a cool tone in depicting the French aristocracy as a hothouse of unholy passions; the unholiest roller of them all is La Vellini, the Spanish-Italian mongrel/courtesan played by Asia Argento.

Introduced in repose and habitually horizontal throughout the rest of the film, Vellini is well-accustomed to getting what she wants. Upon learning that her longtime lover Ryno (Fu'ad Ait Attou) is to take a bride, she resolves to stand by her man —



Asia Argento stars in costume drama *The Last Mistress*.

whether he likes it or not. Argento, who has emerged as one of the most interesting actresses around, is ideally cast, even if the frequent references to Vellini's "homeliness" seem ridiculous.

Unfortunately, *The Last Mistress* falters in the last reel, with a would-be bittersweet ending that, while perfectly well-prepared for dramatically, is unsatisfying — and not in the way it's supposed to be.

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InFocus

Richard Crouse

mrchaos33@hotmail.com



This week audiences will travel into another dimension: A dimension where vampires and humans fall in love; where bloodsuckers feed on animals instead of people.

They'll take a journey to a wondrous land where a series of books can become a movie blockbuster. They're about to cross over into the Twilight zone.

Twilight, for the uninitiated, is Buffy's worst nightmare. It's the first in an insanely popular series of books about seventeen-year-old Bella Swan who moves to Forks, Washington and finds her life in danger when she falls in love with ninety-year-old vampire Edward Cullen.

The books are required reading for every teenage girl on the planet and now those undead literary char-

acters are coming to life on the big screen in what will undoubtedly be the weekend's number one film. Vampires, despite Buffy's best efforts, are hot again.

Until recently, vampire movies were stuck in a rut, duller than a blunt wooden stake. Too often they relied on the age-old conventions of the genre — bloody fangs, holy water and black velvet capes — while every other horror icon was given a makeover.

28 Days Later gave us fleet footed zombies and Ginger Snaps suggested an alternate werewolf backstory but vampires were stuck in gothic Bela Lugosi Land.

The undead were reinvented for the series True Blood, but until recently interesting revisions of the vampire story at the movies were as rare as baked garlic at Dracula's Diner.

That's what makes Twilight and a new film called Let the Right One In so refreshing. The latter is a Swedish movie about Oskar, a bullied twelve-year old boy who finds love and

Twilight, for the uninitiated, is Buffy's worst nightmare.

revenge through Eli, a pretty but peculiar girl who is also a vampire.

Relocating the story from Transylvania or a giant gothic castle to a snow-bound Stockholm suburb blows the cobwebs off of the traditional vampire tale. The setting is bright white, stark without a gargoyle or coffin in sight.

It's a curious backdrop for a horror movie and the otherworldliness of the setting adds to the disquieting aspects of the story.

So if Twilight is sold out at your local theatre this weekend, check out Let the Right One In, or, dig a little deeper and blow the dust off of DVD copies of Tobe Hooper's Lifeforce or The Hunger (David Bowie and Catherine Deneuve as elegantly wasted vamps) or even Blacula for a different take on the vampire myth.

Richard Crouse is the author of Son of the 100 Best Movies You've Never Seen and film critic for CTV's Canada AM.

Movie morsels

Changeling

3 1/2

REVIEW Directed by legendary icon Clint Eastwood, Changeling tells the emotional journey of Christine Collins (Angelina Jolie), a single mother in 1920s Los Angeles who comes home to find her son missing. Following weeks of relentless searching, the police suddenly show up with her child, reporters in tow. Great. Only there's a catch: It ain't him.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa

3 1/2

REVIEW If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Yes, it's an archaic, overused adage, but when it comes to Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa, it also applies. The movie isn't without its improvements: It has plenty of jokes and inside-gags for the adults but they're mostly just recycled sensibilities from the 2005 film. Of course, the story is what really counts, and Madagascar 2 tells too many tales.

Steve Gow/Metro Canada

Quantum of Solace

3 1/2

REVIEW The movie starts literally minutes after its predecessor, Casino Royale, ended, with a pre-credit car chase that sums up director Marc Forster's brisk approach to the story. Action scenes are the meat of Bond movies. Most of what we see in Quantum of Solace is at least as good as the standards set in previous films; relentless, and more than a bit improbable. Daniel Craig's James Bond is still an excellent incarnation of the character.

Rick McGinnis/Metro Canada



Daniel Craig is James Bond

cast that delivers a barrage of laughs.

Rick McGinnis/Metro Canada

Soul Men

3 1/2

REVIEW Soul Men is a blast from the past in both its plot, about the reunion of a '60s-era R&B group, and its tired 1982-style script and direction. But the late Bernie Mac and Samuel L. Jackson deserve at least some credit for their smoother-than-expected grooving as aging singers. Soul Men's one saving grace is that it's Mac's final performance and for this reason, it may end up generating more box-office returns than it otherwise would have.

Robyn Young/Metro Canada

Role Models

3 1/2

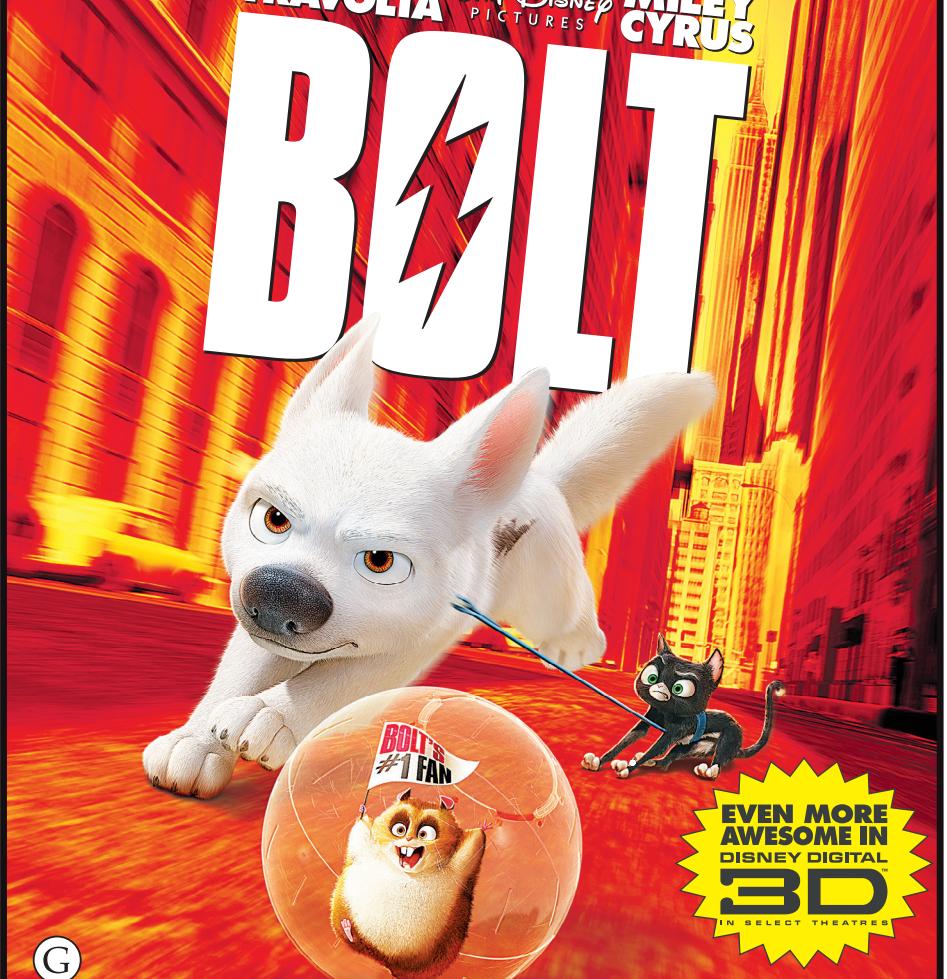
REVIEW Without its leading men — one uses the term loosely in this case — Role Models would be just another installment in the sub-Apatow genre, which is to say a comedy based on character and dialogue and the odd kick in the nuts. Paul Rudd and Seann William Scott are simply the best parts of a great

"BEYOND AWESOME!"

Bonnie Laufer, TRIBUTE-CANADA

JOHN TRAVOLTA Walt Disney Pictures MILEY CYRUS

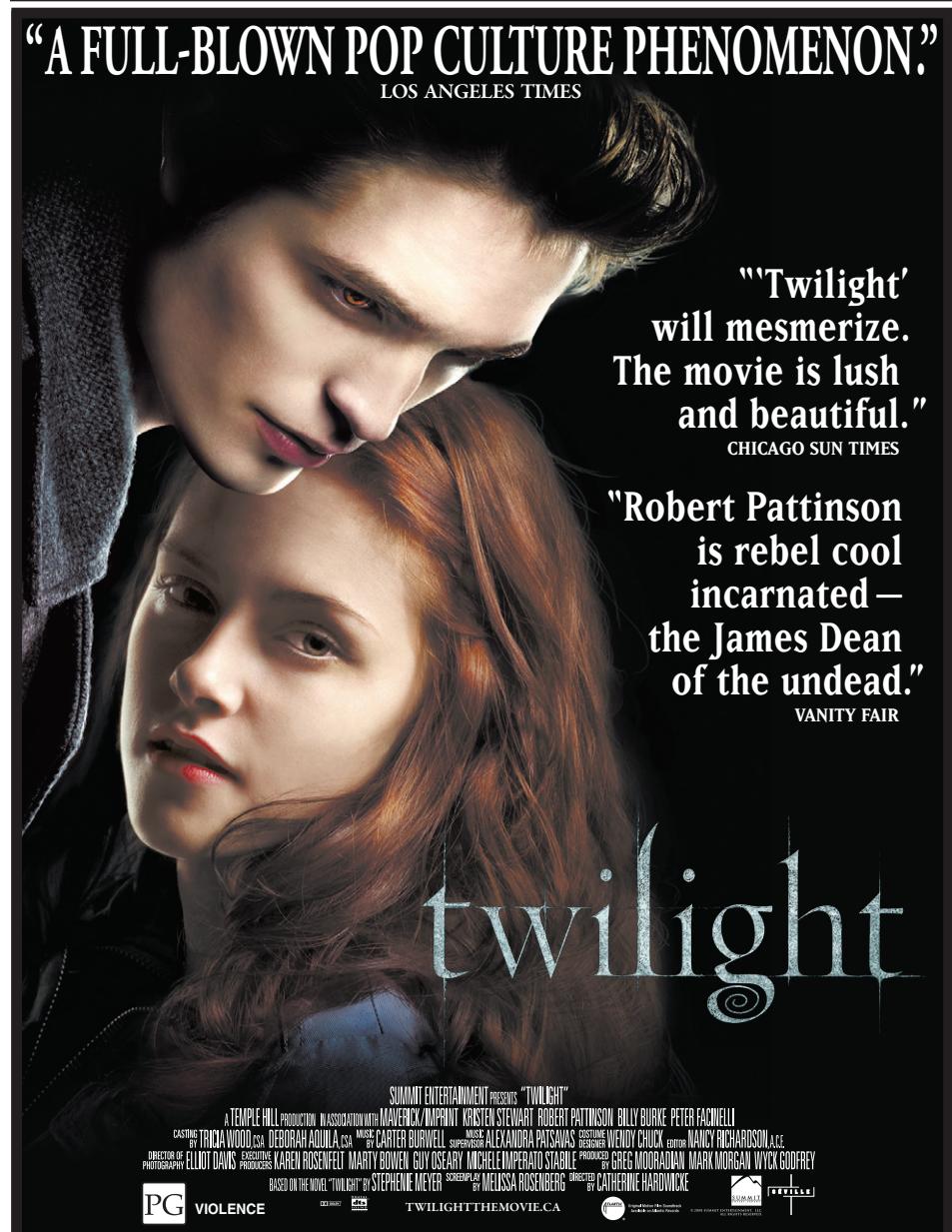
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I Am Legend reunion
In a potential high-profile star-writer reunion, I Am Legend co-scribe Mark Protosevich is in early talks to pen the remake of Old Boy, which Legend star Will Smith is developing with director Steven Spielberg. REUTERS

This week's new releases are highlighted in red.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., NOV. 21 TO THURS., NOV. 27. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

For reviews of *Australia*, *Four Christmases* and *Transporter 3*, pick up Wednesday's Metro.

CITY CENTRE 9 CINEMAS

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Australia (STC) No Passes, DTS Digital Wed-Thu 12:35-4:7:30**Bolt in Disney Digital 3D** (G) Digital Presentation, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-2:25-4:45-7:9:25**Four Christmases** (PG) DTS Digital Wed-Thu 12:30-3:6:35-9**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (G) DTS Digital Fri-Thu 12:50-3:15-6:35-9:10**Quantum of Solace** (14A) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12:20-3:6:55-9:40**Role Models** (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Tue 1:10-3:35-6:40-9:15 Dolby Stereo Digital Wed-Thu 1:3-25-6:40-9:15**The Secret Life of Bees** (PG) DTS Digital Fri-Tue 12:30-3:10-6:30-9**Twilight** (PG) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri-Thu 12:40-3:30-6:50-9:30**Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (18A) Digital Presentation Fri-Tue 1-3:20-6:45-9:20**CLAREVIEW 10 CINEMAS**

4211 139th Ave., 780-472-7600

Australia (STC) Wed-Thu 4:7:30**Bolt in Disney Digital 3D** (G) No Passes, Digital Presentation Fri 4:40-7:9:20 No Passes, Digital Presentation Sat-Sun 12:10-2:20-4:40-7:9:20 No Passes, Digital Presentation Mon-Thu 4:40-7:9:20**Four Christmases** (PG) Wed-Thu 4:45-7:15-9:45**High School Musical 3: Senior Year** (G) Fri 4:15-6:45-9:10 Sat-Sun 1:35-4:15-6:45-9:10 Mon-Tue 4:25-6:35-7:05-8:45-9:15 Wed-Thu 4:35-7:05-9:15**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (G) Fri 4:45-6:35-7:05-8:45-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:15-1:50-4:45-6:35-7:05-8:45-9:15 Mon-Tue 4:45-6:35-7:05-8:45-9:15 Wed-Thu 4:35-7:05-9:15**Quantum of Solace** (14A) No Passes Fri 4:10-4:50-6:50-7:20-9:30-9:55 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:50-1:40-4:10-4:50-6:50-7:20-9:30-9:55 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:10-4:50-6:50-7:20-9:30-9:55**Role Models** (14A) Fri 4:20-6:55-9:40 Sat-Sun 1:25-4:20-6:55-9:40 Mon-Thu 4:20-6:55-9:40**Transporter 3** (14A) Wed-Thu 4:15-6:45-9:10**Twilight** (PG) No Passes Fri 3:50-4:30-6:40-7:10-9:50 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30-3:50-4:30-6:40-7:10-9:25-9:50 No Passes Mon-Thu 3:50-4:30-6:40-7:10-9:25-9:50**Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (18A) Fri 4:45-7:15-9:35 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:45-7:15-9:35 Mon-Tue 4:45-7:15-9:35**GARNEAU THEATRE**

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The Boy in the Striped Pajamas (PG) Fri 7-9 Sat-Sun 2-7-9 Mon-Wed 7-9 Thu 7**METRO CINEMA**

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Falin (STC) Sun 7**The Last Mistress** (18A) Fri-Sat 7-9 Sun 9

Mon 7-9

Shakespeare on Screen: The Merchant of Venice (STC) Thu 7**MOVIES 12**

5074 130 Ave., 780-472-9779

City of Ember (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-6:55**The Dark Knight** (PG) Fri-Sat 1:10-4:20-7:40-11:20 Sun-Thu 1:10-4:20-7:40**Ghost Town** (PG) Fri-Sat 1:55-4:25-7:25-9:50-12:10 Sun-Thu 1:55-4:25-7:25-9:50**The House Bunny** (PG) Fri-Thu 2:7:35**Igor** (PG) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:6:45**Lakeview Terrace** (14A) Fri-Sat 1:45-4:40-7:20-9:55-12:15 Sun-Thu 1:45-4:40-7:20-9:55**Mamma Mia!** (PG) Fri-Sat 1:40-4:15-7:05-9:35-11:55 Sun-Thu 1:40-4:15-7:05-9:35**Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist** (PG) Fri-Sat 1:35-4:45-7:15-9:30-11:45 Sun-Thu 1:35-4:45-7:15-9:30Angelina Jolie in *Changeling*, which is currently in theatres.**Religulous** (14A) Fri-Sat 9:15-11:35 Sun-Thu 9:15**RocknRolla** (14A) Fri-Sat 1:25-4:35-7:10-9:40**Sex Drive** (18A) Fri-Sat 2:05-4:55-7:30-10-12:20 Sun-Thu 2:05-4:55-7:30-10**Step Brothers** (14A) Fri-Sat 4:40-9:40-12 Sun-Thu 4:40-9:40**Tropic Thunder** (14A) Fri-Sat 9:45-12:05 Sun-Thu 9:45**WALL-E** (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:9:25**Yuvvraaj** (Hindi w/e.s.t.) (PG) Fri-Thu 1-4:25-4:45**NORTH EDMONTON CINEMAS**

14231 137th Ave., 780-732-2236

Australia (STC) No Passes Wed-Thu 2:15-6:40-10**Body of Lies** (14A) Fri-Tue 9:20**Bolt** (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-4:50-7:20-9:40**Changeling** (14A) Fri 12:20-3:20-6:40-10 Sat 3:20-6:40-10 Sun-Thu 12:20-3:20-6:40-10**Eagle Eye** (14A) Fri-Sat 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10 Sun 1:20-4:20-7:10-10 Mon-Tue 1:20-4:20-7:10-10**Four Christmases** (PG) No Passes Wed 1:40-6:50-9:50**High School Musical 3: Senior Year** (G) Fri-Sun 1:4-10-6:50-9:50 Mon 1:4-10-9:50

Tue 1:4-10-6:50-9:50

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa (G) Fri 1:10-4-6:30-8:50**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa: The IMAX Experience** (G) Fri-Thu 12:20-4:45-7:15-9:45**The Metropolitan Opera: La Damnation de Faust** (STC) Sat 11**Quantum of Solace** (14A) No Passes Fri 12:45-1:30-3:45-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30 No Passes Wed 1:30-3:45-4:30-6:45-7:30-9:45-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Wed 1**Role Models** (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:45-7:40-10:20 Mon 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:20 Tue 1:40-4:45-7:40-10:20**Transporter 3** (14A) No Passes Wed 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10 Thu 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10**Twilight** (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 1:15-4:15-5:15-7:15-8:10:15 No Passes Wed 4:15-7:15-10:15 No Passes Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Star & Strollers, No Passes Wed 1**WWE: Survivor Series 2008** (STC) Sun 6**Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (18A) Fri 1:50-5:10-7:50-10:30**SOUTH EDMONTON COMMON**

1525 99th St., 780-436-8585

Australia (STC) No Passes Wed-Thu 2:15-6:30-10**Body of Lies** (14A) Fri-Tue 1:10-4:20-7:15-10:10**Bolt** (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 1:20-3:50-6:50-9:30 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:20-3:50-6:50-9:30**Changeling** (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:45-7:10-10:15**Four Christmases** (PG) No Passes Wed 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:45-10:30**High School Musical 3: Senior Year** (G) Fri-Tue 1:15-3:20-6:40-9:25**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (G) Fri 1:10-5:10-7:20-9:30**Passchendaele** (14A) Fri-Tue 1:20-3:45-6:50-9:30**Quantum of Solace** (14A) No Passes Fri 12:15-1:10-2:40-3:50-5:15-6:50-8:40-10:40 No Passes Thu 12:15-1:10-2:40-3:50-5:15-6:50-8:40-10:40 No Passes Wed 12:15-1:10-2:40-3:50-5:15-6:50-8:40-10:40 No Passes Tue 12:15-1:10-2:40-3:50-5:15-6:50-8:40-10:40 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Tue 12:15-1:10-2:40-3:50-5:15-6:50-8:40-10:40**Role Models** (14A) Fri-Sun 1:40-4:45-7:40-10:20 Mon 1:40-4:40-7:40-10:20 Tue 1:40-4:45-7:40-10:20**Transporter 3** (14A) No Passes Wed 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10 Thu 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10**Twilight** (PG) No Passes Fri-Tue 1:15-4:15-5:15-7:15-8:10:15 No Passes Wed 4:15-7:15-10:15 No Passes Thu 1:15-4:15-7:15-10:15 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Star & Strollers, No Passes Wed 1**WWE: Survivor Series 2008** (STC) Sun 6**Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (18A) Fri 1:50-5:10-7:50-10:30**4:40-6:30-7:20-9:30-10:10:30** No Passes Sun-Mon 12:20-1:10-3:10-4:40-6:30-7:20-9:30-10:30 No Passes Wed-Thu 12:30-1:10-3:10-4:40-6:30-7:20-9:30-10:30 No Passes Fri-Sat 1:10-3:10-4:40-6:30-7:20-9:30-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Tue 1**Role Models** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-5:15-7:40-10:20**Transporter 3** (14A) No Passes Wed 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10 Thu 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10**Twilight** (PG) No Passes Fri-Mon 12:30-1:15-3:0-4:45-6:40-7:30-9:50-10:10:30**WWE: Survivor Series 2008** (STC) Sun 6**Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (18A) Fri 1:50-5:10-7:50-10:30**10:30** No Passes Tue 12:30-1:15-3:30-4:45-6:40-7:20-9:30-10:10:30 No Passes Wed-Thu 12:30-1:15-3:30-4:45-6:40-7:20-9:30-10:10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, No Passes Tue 1**Role Models** (14A) Fri-Thu 1:45-5:15-7:40-10:20**Transporter 3** (14A) No Passes Wed 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10 Thu 1:20-4:20-7:10-10:10**Twilight** (PG) No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Fri 6:45-9:40 No Passes, Dolby Stereo Digital Mon-Tue 6:35-9:50**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (G) DTS Digital Fri 7:10-9:20 DTS Digital Sat-Sun 1:10-3:25-7:10-9:20 DTS Digital Mon-Thu 7:10-

Music

Best and worst of Bond themes

JIM REYNO
Metro Canada

Bond theme trends

- 10: The number of James Bond themes John Barry has had a hand in composing.
- 3: The number of Bond themes performed by Shirley Bassey: Goldfinger (1964), Diamonds Are Forever (1971)

and Moonraker (1979).
 • 1: The number of duets for a Bond theme: Jack White and Alicia Keys on Another Way to Die for Quantum of Solace (2008).

METRO NEWS SERVICES

tive — this is James Bond we're talking about, after all.

In fact, some of them are, appropriately, killer ballads. Carly Simon's sultry delivery of Nobody Does It Better from the 1977 Bond film The Spy Who Loved Me helped the Carole Bayer

Sager/Marvin Hamlisch song garner an Academy Award nomination for best song. You feel like you've made a conquest just listening to it.

Another Bond ballad got an Oscar nod for best song. Sheena Easton, the little Scot with the big voice, earned a nomination with For Your Eyes Only from 1981. Bill Conti and Michael Leeson wrote the song.

The other Bond theme that's been nominated for a best-song Oscar is probably the most loved Bond theme of them all. Paul McCartney & Wings released Live and Let Die in 1973.

Composed by McCartney and now-deceased wife Linda, the song is all things Bond: Suave and sophisticated during the slow parts, dangerous and edgy when the tempo rises.

It's a fun ride, just like in the movies.



Alicia Keys and Jack White team up for Quantum of Solace's theme song.

Cornell Screams of ambition

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

On Nov. 4, when Barack Obama was marching to victory in the U.S. presidential election, Chris Cornell was in Vancouver watching it all unfold on TV. While the legendary Seattle singer was excited by the results, he was especially moved by Canada's reaction to America's affairs.

"I got a sense from Canadians that they were pleased about the outcome as well," he says on the phone from Vancouver, a couple days after the election. "That was really cool, you never know how other people are going to react."

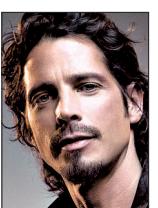
He's seen his fair share of cynicism towards America — he lives part time in Paris — and he thinks Obama can change the way people outside the States view his country. "It's good to get away from the States and look back through the lens that other people see us through," he says. "What happened on Tuesday changes that view an awful lot."

As excited as Cornell is about his new president, he's got more pressing issues at hand. He's currently on tour promoting his third solo album, Scream. It's a vast departure from Soundgarden's brooding grunge, or Audioslave's more straight-up riff rock.

— in fact, it doesn't resemble anything the artist has done.

This Timbaland produced disc **Chris Cornell** features heavy doses of R&B-like dance music, mixed with rock sounds. With a few tweaks single Part of Me, could have found its way on Nelly Furtado's last disc, while Ground Zero sounds like Maroon 5-meets-Gnarls Barkley, but with Cornell's soaring vocals.

"Musically, this is the most ambitious thing I've been a part of," he says.



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CBC releases new disc

CBC Records has recently released *Mamma Yamma and Friends*, a compilation of artists who have performed songs for the kids show, among them Barenaked Ladies, Amy Millan, and Juno Award-winning reggae artist Rupert Harvey. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Another world for GNR

SoundCheck

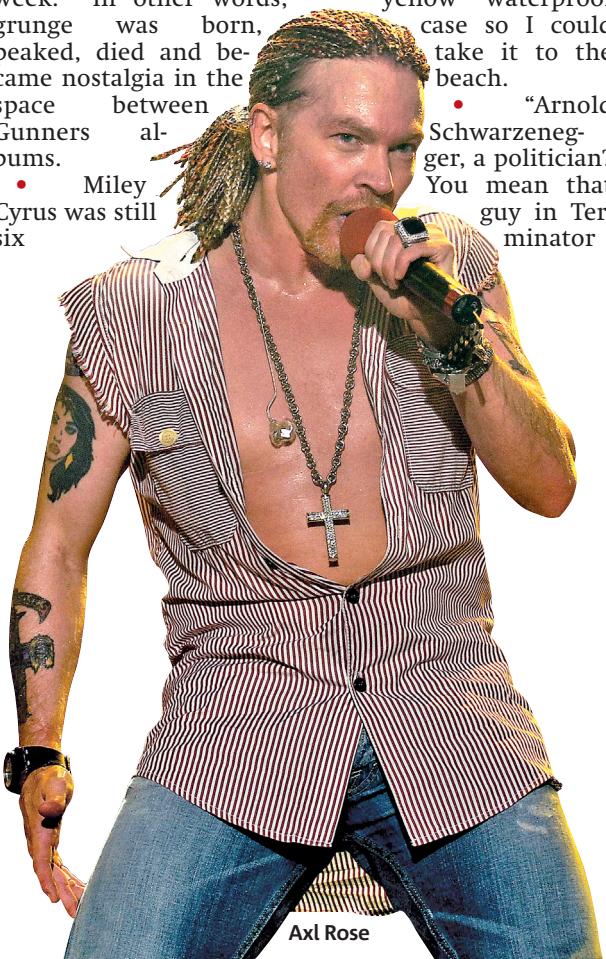
Alan Cross

alan@ongoinghistory.com

By the time the new Guns N' Roses album, *Chinese Democracy* hits stores on Sunday, it will have been 17 years, two months and seven days since the last time Gunners' fans had a chance to buy a CD of new material. When Axl finally emerged from Rip Van Winkle studios, he may have found that the world had, er, changed.

Here's what I mean:

- When "Use Your Illusion 1 and 2" were released on September 17, 1991, an unknown band called "Nirvana" was getting ready to issue a record called "Nevermind" the following week. In other words, grunge was born, peaked, died and became nostalgia in the space between Gunners albums.
- Miley Cyrus was still six
- The first Lollapalooza Tour had just wrapped up.
- Michael Jackson was still considered a good investment. Sony had just signed him to a contract worth \$1 billion.
- Sam the Record Man stocked CDs, vinyl and pre-recorded cassettes in locations across Canada.
- Speaking of CDs, they were sold in environmentally-unfriendly packages called "longboxes."
- I bought my new Walkman. It came in a yellow waterproof case so I could take it to the beach.
- "Arnold Schwarzenegger, a politician? You mean that guy in Terminator



Metro music picks

- **SERENA RYDER** — Is It O.K.: Canadian songstress blossoms, using her powerful pipes and heartfelt lyrics to craft contemporary love songs that sound wise beyond their years.
- **T.I.** — Paper Trail: Dirty

months away from even being a viable collection of stem cells. Meanwhile, Daddy was still an unknown mullet. "Achy Breaky Heart" wouldn't be released until the following year.

• A precocious ten year-old named Britney Spears had just appeared on "Star Search."

• Although AC/DC has just released their first album in eight years, they've released five since the last GNR record.

• The first Lollapalooza Tour had just wrapped up.

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• Speaking of CDs, they were sold in environmentally-unfriendly packages called "longboxes."

• I bought my new Walkman. It came in a yellow waterproof case so I could take it to the beach.

• "Arnold Schwarzenegger, a politician? You mean that guy in Terminator

2? HAHAHAHA!"

• The biggest game system was the Sega Genesis. Sony's first PlayStation was still three years in the future.

• Computer users were excited about MS-DOS 5.0 because no one wanted to use Windows 3.0. Besides, who wanted to pay \$4,000 for a machine with

1MB of RAM and a 40MB hard drive? Who would ever need all that storage?

• The world's population was 5.7 billion. It's now 6.3 billion.

• A lame-duck president named Bush was on his way to being tossed out of the White House by a young, charismatic Democrat and his very smart

wife. Meanwhile, there was a brutal recession as the stock market tanked, partly because the cost of fighting a war in Ir—

Okay, so not everything has changed.

The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read the daily Music Geek blog at ongoinghistory.com

TOP 10 MOBILE DOWNLOADS

- 1 Whatever You Like T.I.
- 2 Let It Rock Kevin Rudolf
- 3 Womanizer Britney Spears
- 4 Live Your Life T.I. ft. Rihanna
- 5 So What Pink
- 6 Hit N Cold Katy Perry
- 7 My Life The Game
- 8 Poker Face Lady GaGa
- 9 Right Now Akon
- 10 Rock N'Roll Train AC/DC

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AEG LIVE



Actress Jennifer Aniston admits she watches herself in re-runs of her hit sitcom *Friends*, insisting she still finds the show that shot her to fame hilarious.

Television

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt



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listings, trailers, reviews
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metronews.ca/movies

In brief

SERIES Discovery Channel has greenlighted a 13-episode series that will spotlight demolition blasts around the world and explain the science behind the explosions. The Detonators will follow two explosives experts, Dr. Braden Lusk and Dr. Paul Worsey. It will premiere in January.

REUTERS

COURTS The Lifetime cable TV network has counter-sued NBC Universal, Bravo and The Weinstein Company over the rights to the TV program Project Runway in the latest legal action that has left the hit show in limbo.

REUTERS

Heroes need rescuing

IntelleVision

Rick McGinnis

rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

FROM HERO TO ZERO: Nobody will disagree when you say that this season of NBC's *Heroes* has been lackluster — disappointing even when compared to the last season, as even creator Tim Kring seemed to confirm at a recent screenwriting workshop where he admitted that maintaining the plotlines has been "an absolute bear to do."

Kring also made a curious statement, noting that the way people watch TV has changed, noting that airing long storylines is "a very flawed way of telling stories on network television right now because of the advent of the DVR and

online streaming," and that watching a show during its scheduled broadcast slot "is related to the saps and the dips-ts who can't figure out how to watch it in a superior way."

It only took a day or two for Maureen Ryan of the Chicago Tribune to take Kring to task for insulting his show's fans. "The only sap here is Kring," Ryan writes. "Any and all insulting terms should be directed at himself. After all, who is responsible for two seasons of mostly muddy, incoherent storytelling? It wasn't the saps at home on their couches."

Time pop culture critic James Poniewozik went after Kring's confused take on post-broadcast TV, reminding him that — long, long ago, even before only children or MIT scientists could program VCRs — you once had to rely on annoying officemates to catch you up on shows

you'd missed because you had to meet your in-laws for dinner, or a diesel rig had careened off the highway and demolished your TV antenna.

"Time-shifting, streaming and watching on DVD are precisely what has made it more attractive for viewers to watch serial shows," Poniewozik writes. "If you can watch on Hulu, or a second run on cable, or a replay on your DVR, it's easier to catch up."

Kring admitted that, unlike the producers of *Battlestar Galactica*, he has no idea

where his show is going; right now it looks like he's paddled out of sight of land and needs to blame someone for turning a hit show about superheroes into a nerdy melodrama where every new plot twist makes its fans punch themselves in the temple to dull the pain of feeling like a sucker.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

movie premiere!
iCarly goes to Japan
TONIGHT 7PM E/P



Mix of Six

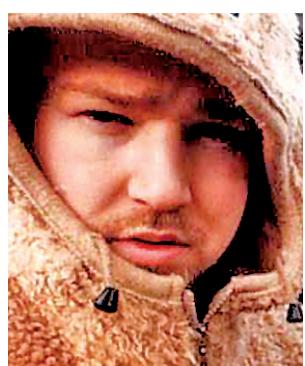
HOT & HAPPENING WEEKEND EVENTS AROUND THE CITY



Taboo: The Naughty But Nice Sex Show

When: This weekend
Where: Northlands AgriCom

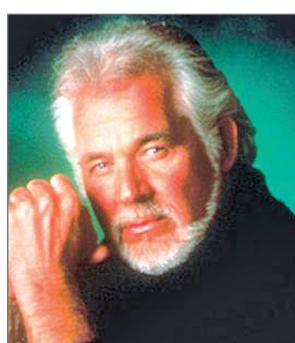
The eighth-annual Taboo: The Naughty But Nice Sex Show runs this weekend at Northlands AgriCom. The show features exotic entertainment, vendors, and do-it-yourself workshops. For more information or tickets, visit canwestshows.com/sexshow.



The Herbaliser

When: Begins Friday
Where: Pumphouse Theatre

Experimental hip hop veterans, The Herbaliser, are at the Starlite Room this weekend, alongside local turntablist, DJ Degree. Tickets for the show are available through Ticketmaster for \$20.



Kenny Rogers

When: Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Rexall Place

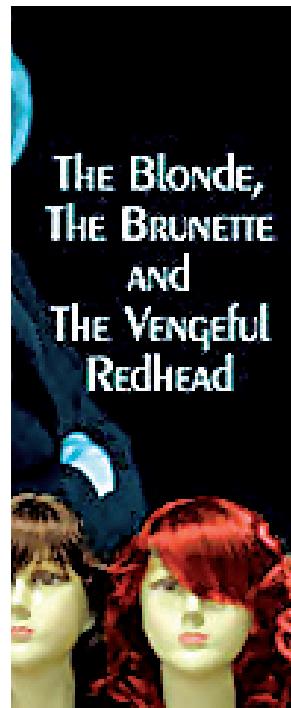
Country music singer/songwriter Kenny Rogers will be gracing the Rexall Place stage with Christmas tracks to get 780's in the holiday spirit. The show is 7:30 p.m. tomorrow. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster for \$24.75 each.



Edmonton's Queer Arts and Culture Festival

When: Saturday, 8 p.m.
Where: Starlite Room

Exposure: Edmonton's Queer Arts and Culture Festival wraps up this weekend, but not without a massive celebration. The Noir Masquerade gala will be a party to lose yourself in this Saturday. The party starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the door of the Starlite Room for \$20.



The Blonde, the Brunette, and the Vengeful Redhead

When: Until Dec. 7
Where: Citadel Theatre

Head down to the Citadel Theatre for The Blonde, the Brunette, and the Vengeful Redhead this weekend. For ticket prices and showtimes, visit citadeltheatre.com.



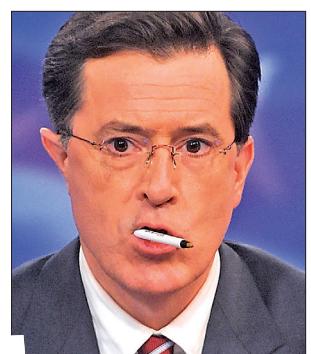
2008 American Music Awards

Air date: Nov. 23
Network: ABC and A Channel

THE MUSIC awards show that isn't the Grammys sees Jimmy Kimmel return for the fifth shot as host, which says all you need to know. Beyoncé, Coldplay, Kanye West and the Jonas Brothers are among the performers, but if you keep your eyes sharp, you can get a few glimpses of music industry executives vainly trying to hide their fear and despair as their industry tanks.

Colbert for Christmas

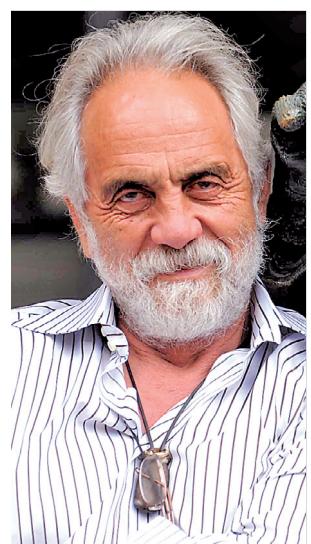
Rick's TV Picks



A Colbert Christmas

Air date: Nov. 23
Network: CTV, Comedy Network

BECAUSE YOU CAN'T have enough smug over the holidays, Stephen Colbert brings his college-fried impersonation of Bill O'Reilly to primetime with a variety special featuring guests Feist, Toby Keith, John Legend, Willie Nelson and Jon Stewart. Enjoy it while you can — the onset of the Obama White House means that Colbert and Stewart will be doing variations on Who's On First by this time next year.



The U.S. Government Vs. Tommy Chong

Air date: Nov. 23
Network: CBC Newsworld

YOU'RE NOT paranoid, man — they really are after you! That's the message of this documentary about the \$12 million US sting operation that got the famous "Dave's not here, man" comic put in stir for 9 months. But please don't tell me that you're going to watch it stoned; no one needs to hear that.

PLEASE CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR SHOWS' AIR TIMES.

Cheat on this

Gossip Girl star Chace Crawford recently admitted he'd steal chewing gum from stars when he worked as a valet in Malibu, Calif., and his confession impressed Wrigley bosses, who sent him a huge pack of gum. IMDB.COM

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Holiday movies

Moviegoers are abuzz this week, after the 2008 holiday movie previews were published.



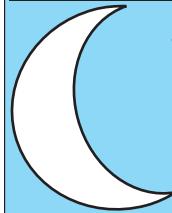
Films expected to cause a box-office frenzy this holiday season include *Twilight*, *Milk* and *Revolutionary Road*.

**2 Springsteen's dream**

A release date has been finalized for Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band's new album, *Working on a Dream*. Fans can expect the record to appear on store shelves on Jan. 27, 2009.

3 WALL-E on DVD

On Tuesday, Walt Disney Home Studios Entertainment released a special three-disc edition of the movie *WALL-E* on DVD. Additional features include a downloadable copy of the film, behind-the-scenes featurettes, and a short documentary about how sound was produced for the film.

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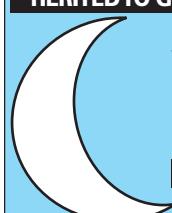
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4 Chili challenge

Zantac has created a national chili recipe challenge where Canadians can submit their recipes online, at www.chilichallenge.ca, to be judged. Finalists will compete against Food Network Canada TV host Anthony Sedlak, in a chili cook-off.

5 Rocco to makeover school food

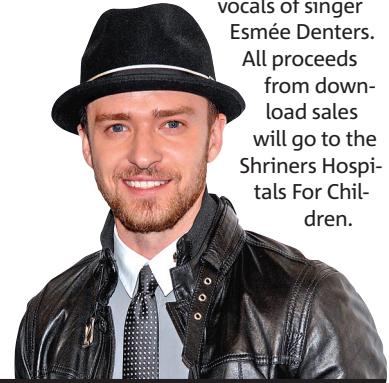
Canadian chef David Rocco is looking to revolutionize the way Canadian children view food. Rocco, who hopes to make cooking part of a student's curriculum, has started by scoping out certain Ontario schools for the project.

6 Mormon musical

Watch out Broadway, the creators of *South Park* are currently putting together *Mormon Musical*. The musical is scheduled to take stage in the Manhattan Theatre District in 2009 and will satirize Mormon religion.

7 Justin sings for charity

Pop superstar Justin Timberlake just released a new single, *Follow My Lead*. The track also features the vocals of singer Esmée Denters. All proceeds from download sales will go to the Shriners Hospitals For Children.



ED	C	B	S	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
11/21/08	2	CFRN	239 318	etalk	Hollywood	Law & Order		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Supernanny (N)		News (N)
	3	KHQ	- 370	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	Deal or No Deal (N)		Crusoe (HDTV) (N)		Lipstick Jungle
	4	CBXT	- 307	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Air Farce-Final	Rick Mercer	Doctor Who "Midnight"		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	6	KREM	- 372	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors (N)		Ghost Whisperer (N)		The Mentalist (HDTV)		NUMB3RS
	7	CKEM	241 347	Law & Order: SVU	Murdoch Mysteries			Lipstick Jungle (N)		Crusoe (HDTV) (N)		Your City
	8	CITY	240 339	ET Canada	Entertainment	NCIS "Cloak" (HDTV) (N)		NUMB3RS (HDTV) (N)		Life "Badge Bunny" (N)		News Hour
	12	CBXFT	119 705	A communiquer	Paquet voleur (HDTV) (SC)			Une heure sur Terre (SC)		Le Téléjournal (N) (SC)		TJ Alberta
	13	KXLY	- 371	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Wife Swap (N)		Supernanny (N)		20/20 (N)
	16	KAYU	- 373	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		News (N)
	19	CHTV	-	The Insider (N)	E News	Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		Deal or No Deal (N)		20/20 (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	22	KSPS	- 374	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Wash. Week	McLaughlin		Bill Moyers Journal (N)		NOW on PBS		Being Served
	15	CBCN	502	-	CBC News: The National	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		fifth estate
	54	CTV	501 391	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	News
	20	TSN	400 400	Basketball	SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)			Boxing: Caballero vs. Molitor		2007 Poker Million (N)		
	23	net	408 418	FSN Pro Football Preview	Saturday Night Poker			Hockey Central		Flames Week		Sportsnet Connected
	47	SPEED	417 406	Monster Jam (HDTV)	Monster Jam (HDTV)			Pinks	Pass Time	Monster Jam (HDTV)		Ult. Fighter
	94	SCORE	410 403	(6) WWE SmackDown!	Vanier Cup	Score Tonight	Hardcore Hockey Talk					Monster Jam
	14	YTV	552 543	iCarly	iCarly	iCarly Carly, Sam and Freddie travel to Japan.				Smallville "Blue"		Dark Oracle
	17	TREE	553 546	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears	Dragon	Backyardigans Dora-Explorer		Go, Diego, Go!
	45	FAM	557 541	Zoey 101	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Minutemen (2008, Comedy) Jason Dolley.			(10:01) Camp Rock (2008) Joe Jonas.		
	25	A&E	615 520	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	CSI: Miami (HDTV)			Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
	29	FOOD	603 561	Chef Abroad	The Wild Chef	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Restaurant Makeover		Challenge Pie contest.		Chef Abroad
	32	DISC	520 505	Man vs. Wild (N)		The Devil's Triangle		Daily Planet		Man vs. Wild		Greensburg
	38	SPIKE	628 584	The Ultimate Fighter						MANswers		GameTrailers
	43	SPACE	627 528	Supernatural (HDTV)		Ghost Hunters		Prom Night II (1987, Horror) Michael Ironside.				Prom Night III
	50	STAR	621 56	At the Movies	Star-at Movies	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno	TMZ			Celebrity Rehab With Dr. Drew		Hollywood

ED	C	B	S	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
11/22/08	2	CFRN	239 318	W-FIVE (N)		Law & Order: SVU		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		News (N)
	3	KHQ	- 370	News (N)	Raymond	CSI: NY "On the Job"		Knight Rider (HDTV)		Law & Order (HDTV)		Law/Ord SVU
	4	CBXT	- 307	NHL Hockey		NHL Hockey Detroit Red Wings at Calgary Flames. (HDTV) (Live)						HNIC - After Hours
	6	KREM	- 372	News (N)	Scrubs	Operation Smile Free surgery.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgn.		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		48 Hr. Mystery
	7	CKEM	241 347	Survivorman (DVS)	Kaya	Less-Kind		Perfect Pie (2002, Drama) Wendy Crewson.		The City Show		
	8	CITY	240 339	Ultimate Engineering		Tank Overhaul		Painkiller Jane		Re-Inventors		News (N)
	12	CBXFT	119 705	Le Moment de vérité (SC)		3600 secondes d'extase (SC)		Dre Grey, leçons d'anatomie		Le Téléjournal		Amour captif
	13	KXLY	- 371	(6) College Football Texas Tech at Oklahoma. (HDTV) (Live)				The Insider (N)		Entertainment Tonight		Storm Stories
	16	KAYU	- 373	Boston Legal	House			Cops (N)	Cops	America's Most Wanted		News (N)
	19	CHTV	-	E News	The Soup	X-Weighted "Angela J."		Rent-A-Goalie		Billable Hours	Kenny-Spenny	Cock'd Gunns
	22	KSPS	- 374	The Lawrence Welk Show		May-December	Time Goes By	(9:05) Lifefloat (1944, Drama) Tallulah Bankhead.			Steve Miller	
	15	CBCN	502	-	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Refuge (N)	Sat. Report	Weekend	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Refuge
	54	CTV	501 391	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	News
	20	TSN	400 400	2008 World Series of Poker	Boxing Ricky Hatton vs. Paulie Malignaggi. (HDTV) (Live)			The F Word		SportsCentre	Boxing	
	23	net	408 418	English Premier League Soccer Teams TBA.				The Ultimate Fighter		Saturday Night Poker		Sportsnet Con.
	47	SPEED	417 406	Unique Whips	Unique Whips	Unique Whips	Unique Whips	Unique Whips		Low Life	SuperCars	Unique Whips
	94	SCORE	410 403	Score on NFL	Footy Show	University Football CIS Vanier Cup.						Final Score
	14	YTV	552 543	Adrenaline	Adrenaline	Wolverine	Transformers	Naruto	Blue Dragon	Zach Bell (N)	Bleach	Storm Hawks
	17	TREE	553 546									



Celebrity Buzz

No role models in L.A.: Wahlberg

PARENTING Mark Wahlberg doesn't want his daughter to look up to singer Britney Spears and hotel heiress Paris Hilton, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actor, who has a five-year-old daughter Ella Rae, two-year-old son Michael and nine-week-old Brendan Joseph with fiancée Rhea Durham, wants to move away from Hollywood because there are no positive role models for his children.

"There are no real role models for girls. You've got Britney Spears, you've got Paris Hilton

— they're nice enough people but I don't want my daughter to aspire to be like that."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Osbourne's beau went traditional

MARRIAGE When model Luke Worrall proposed to his girlfriend and reality TV star Kelly Osbourne, he went all old school, orange.co.uk reports.

"Luke got down on one knee to propose to Kelly," said a source.

"I did everything properly," said Worrall, 18.

"Before I asked Kelly to marry me I asked her dad, which was quite scary."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Madonna and Ritchie to be divorced today

IN COURT Pop star Madonna and her film director husband Guy Ritchie are to be divorced at the High Court in London today, according to court lists.

A notice of the couple's decree nisi will be posted at the Registry of the Family Division, BBC News Online reports.

According to newspaper reports, the couple have reached a settlement over finances and sharing custody of their three children.

The couple are registered for the divorce hearing under the names Ciccone M and Ritchie GS. It will be heard be-

fore the High Court's Family Division. Neither party are required to attend the hearing, which is likely to last a matter of minutes.

According to The Times newspaper, the 50-year-old singer will retain the bulk of her wealth.

The couple's two sons, eight-year-old Rocco and David, 2, may share their time between their U.K. and U.S. homes, reports suggest.

The paper added that Lourdes, Madonna's 12-year-old daughter from a previous relationship, will continue to live with her mother.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Paltrow is sorry for wearing fur

APOLOGY Gwyneth Paltrow is trying to get back in animal rights activists' good books, by apologizing to the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals for endorsing Tod's collection of luxury fur goods, imbd.com reports.

A spokesperson said at the time that they had written to the star many times about the treatment of animals used for fur, but their contact had been rebuffed.

But Paltrow made amends by telling PETA vice-president Dan Mathews she didn't realize the fox fur and fur-lined

boots were real.

Mathews recounted the apology to Usweekly.com, saying "(Paltrow said) ... it was a daylong photo shoot on a boat near Capri, and there were all sorts of poses with all kinds of clothes — none with fur. During one setup, a stylist came up from behind and draped a stole around my shoulder. I didn't pay much attention to it, and when I noticed it was fur, I assumed it was fake fur, but did not ask, so it's my fault. I know it's not a great excuse, but I hope you and your members understand."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Phillippe's a great dad: Witherspoon

FAMILY Reese Witherspoon has heaped praise on her ex-husband Ryan Phillippe because he's a great dad, imbd.com reports.

The actress split from Phillippe in 2007, but says the former couple remains civil for the sake of their children Ava and Deacon.

"When we're with our children, we're very good about checking ourselves. I'm teaching the children what we were taught growing up — a real set of rules, discipline and love."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Paris and Benji split

BREAKUP Paris Hilton and Benji Madden's romance is over, People.com reports.

The pair split a few days ago after more than nine months of dating, a source close to the hotel heiress tells People.

"She is saddened by the breakup but they're just too different and they wanted different things in life," the source says. "He was loyal and sweet but it was time to take a break."

Reps for both Hilton and

Hathaway headed for heartbreak?

Madden could not be reached for comment.

On Nov. 15, Paris was photographed getting cosy with ex-boyfriend Stavros Niarchos at nightspot Mokai in Miami. The Hilton friend says the two were

simply engaged in a close but friendly conversation.

Both Hilton, 27, and Madden, 29, have recently denied reports that they were unfaithful to each other.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



The Jolie-Pitts plan holiday globetrot

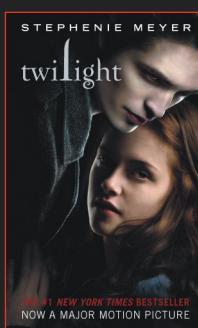
TRAVEL Actors Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie are updating their passports for another Christmas abroad with their kids, imbd.com says.

Pitt revealed the family plans to spend the holidays in one of the kids' places of origin — Cambodia, Vietnam or Ethiopia.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



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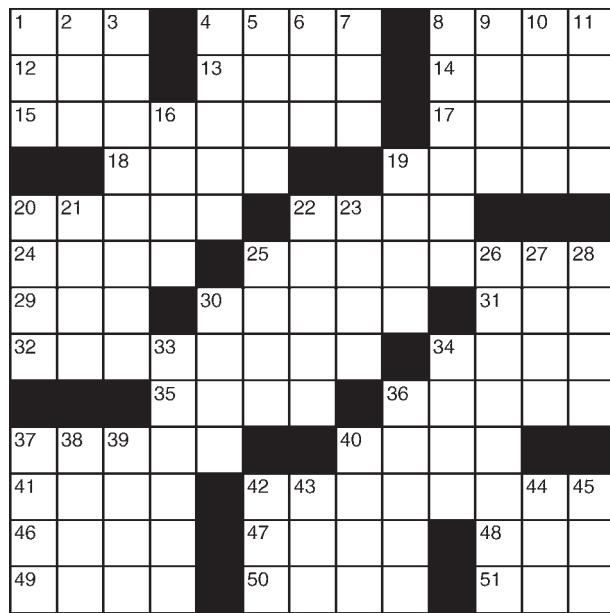
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**Michele McDougall, Weather Specialist & Host – Breakfast Television**

"My favourite part is reporting the weather. It fascinates me, and as we know around here, it's always changing, keeping forecasters on their toes."

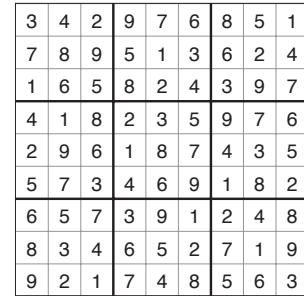
WEEKDAYS AT 6 AM

**Crossword across**

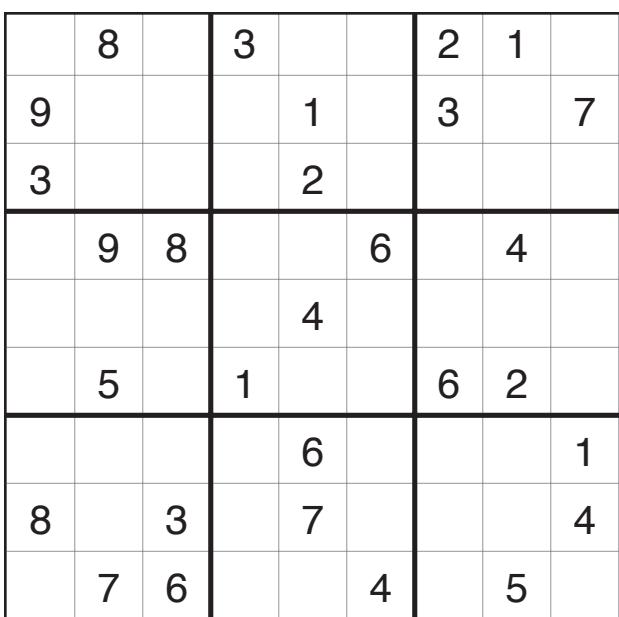
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PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca**SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:**Under 13 min Genius
 13-17 min Scholar17-21 min Smart
 21-25 min Not bad
 25+ min Keep practising**Sudoku**

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

**Horoscopes****ARIES****MARCH 21-APRIL 20****TAURUS**
APRIL 21-MAY 21

A sweetheart tries to cheat and fails. Expectations about love are challenged by reality. Refuse to deceive someone about a trifling matter.

LIBRA**SEPT 23-OCT 23**

A dreamer seeks your friendship. Nothing is as bad as it seems. A madcap invention is taken seriously.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22

A poverty-stricken person gets drawn into a dispute. Timely action outwits a defensive man. Listen closely to an important message.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21

Don't waste time looking in the wrong direction. A stubborn man learns a lesson the hard way. Someone's grumpiness will lift your mood.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21

Refuse to take control in a complicated situation. A hot-blooded man is discussed by those who care. Someone's love affair gets serious.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22

An opponent is almost finished complaining. Friends will disagree about forgetfulness. Reveal the facts to an evaluator.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20

A fatalist's eagerness is of great concern. There's nothing to be done right now. A trusted friend makes you wonder.

LEO**JULY 23-AUG 23**

A woman gets ditched by a phony. Someone changes plans for no reason. A man's warning comes true in an amusing way.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18

You'll risk being offensive with your frankness. Don't forget to check your messages. Prepare to make a quick getaway.

VIRGO**AUG 24-SEPT 22**

Economic matters can cause turmoil. Someone being sneaky will be caught. You won't be able to help a leader.

PISCES**FEB 19-MARCH 20**

Your luck will improve in matters of love. Teach an elder about reality. A shake-up creates a mystery.

AVATAR VENUS**rd.ca**

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!

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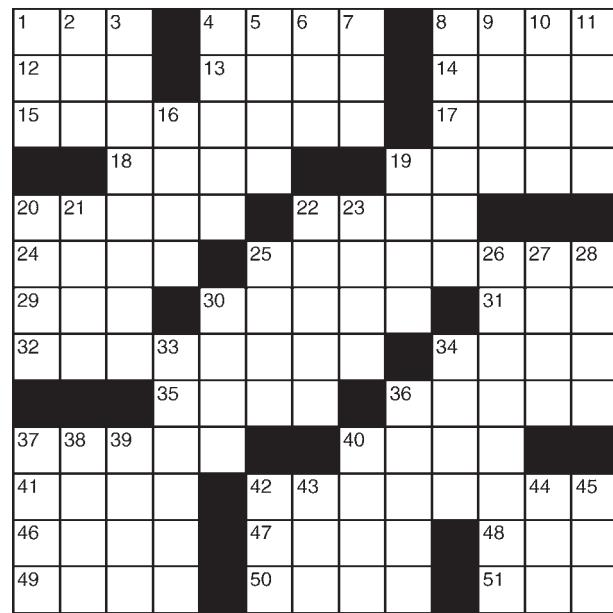
"Great food around the corner..."

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Take Five**Michele McDougall, Weather Specialist & Host – Breakfast Television**

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Metro Recipe of the Day

the centre of each.

4. Lightly toast pine nuts, then add to spinach. Peel and crush garlic and add to mixture, then grate over cheese, season to taste with salt and black pepper, and mix.

5. Press spinach mixture into tomatoes, piling it up, then replace tops, balancing them on the stuffing. Bake on the top shelf of the oven for 12-15 minutes. Serve hot.

PER SERVING

790 calories, 68 g total fat, 16 g saturated fat, 9 g carbohydrate, 5 g fibre, 36 g protein

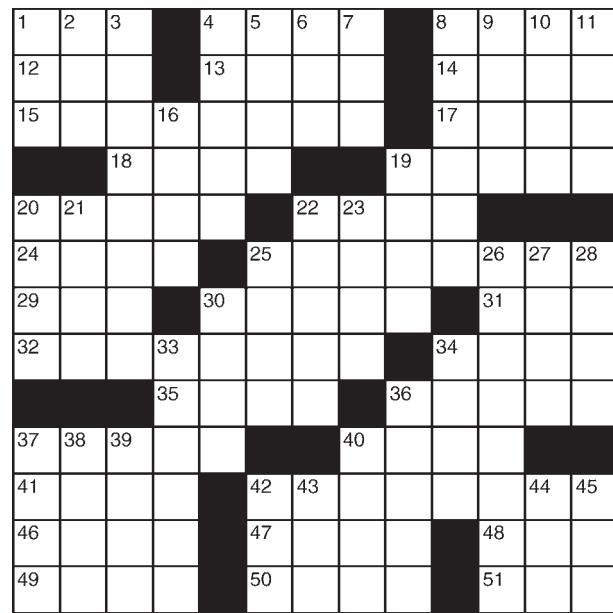
SERVES 2**rd.ca**

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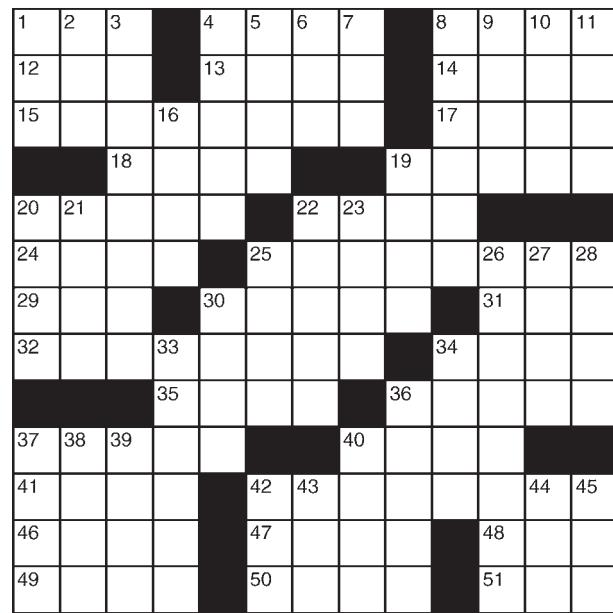
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Edmonton City Centre - kiosk II
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Londonderry Mall
Mill Woods Town Centre
Northgate Centre
Northgate Centre - kiosk
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Southgate Mall - kiosk
St. Albert Centre
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Westmount Centre
Whyte Avenue at 107 St.
EDSON
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Peter Pond Shopping Centre
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Lloyd Mall
MEDICINE HAT
Carry Drive Plaza
Medicine Hat Mall
RED DEER
Bower Place Shopping Centre
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Creekside Centre
WHITECOURT
3301 37 Ave

Offer ends December 31, 2008. Available with compatible devices within Bell Mobility high speed mobile network coverage areas. Weeknights Mon-Thurs, 9pm-7am; Weekends Fri 9pm-Mon 7am. Other monthly fees, i.e., e9-1-1 (75¢), system access (not a government fee) (\$8.95), and one-time device activation (\$35) apply. Long distance and roaming charges (including foreign taxes) may apply outside your local area. With data use, charges apply if you do not subscribe to a data plan and fees may apply for features, content and roaming when outside your local area. Upon early termination, price adjustment charges apply. Subject to change without notice; not combinable with other offers. Taxes extra. Other conditions apply. (1) The iXVDO network is the fastest and largest high-speed mobile network that is available across all countries within North America. (2) Applies to airtime for calls received in your local calling area. (3) Unlimited local and Canadian long distance calls and unlimited text messages to and from five designated numbers. (4) Weeknights Mon-Thurs, 5pm-7am; Weekends Fri 5pm-Mon 7am. (5) Subject to acceptable use restrictions in Terms of Service, including consuming excessive network capacity or causing our network to be adversely affected. See bell.ca/acceptableuse for details. (6) Received messages include local, international, roaming and service related messages from Bell and exclude premium, alerts and dial-up messages. Sent messages include local messages and exclude international, roaming, alerts, premium messages and messages sent with an instant messaging application. (7) Simultaneous use of airtime. BlackBerry®, RIM®, Research In Motion®, SureType®, SurePress™ and related trademarks, names and logos are the property of Research In Motion Limited and are registered and/or used in the U.S. and countries around the world. Rogers is a trade-mark of Rogers Communications Inc. Telus is a trade-mark of Telus Corporation.